

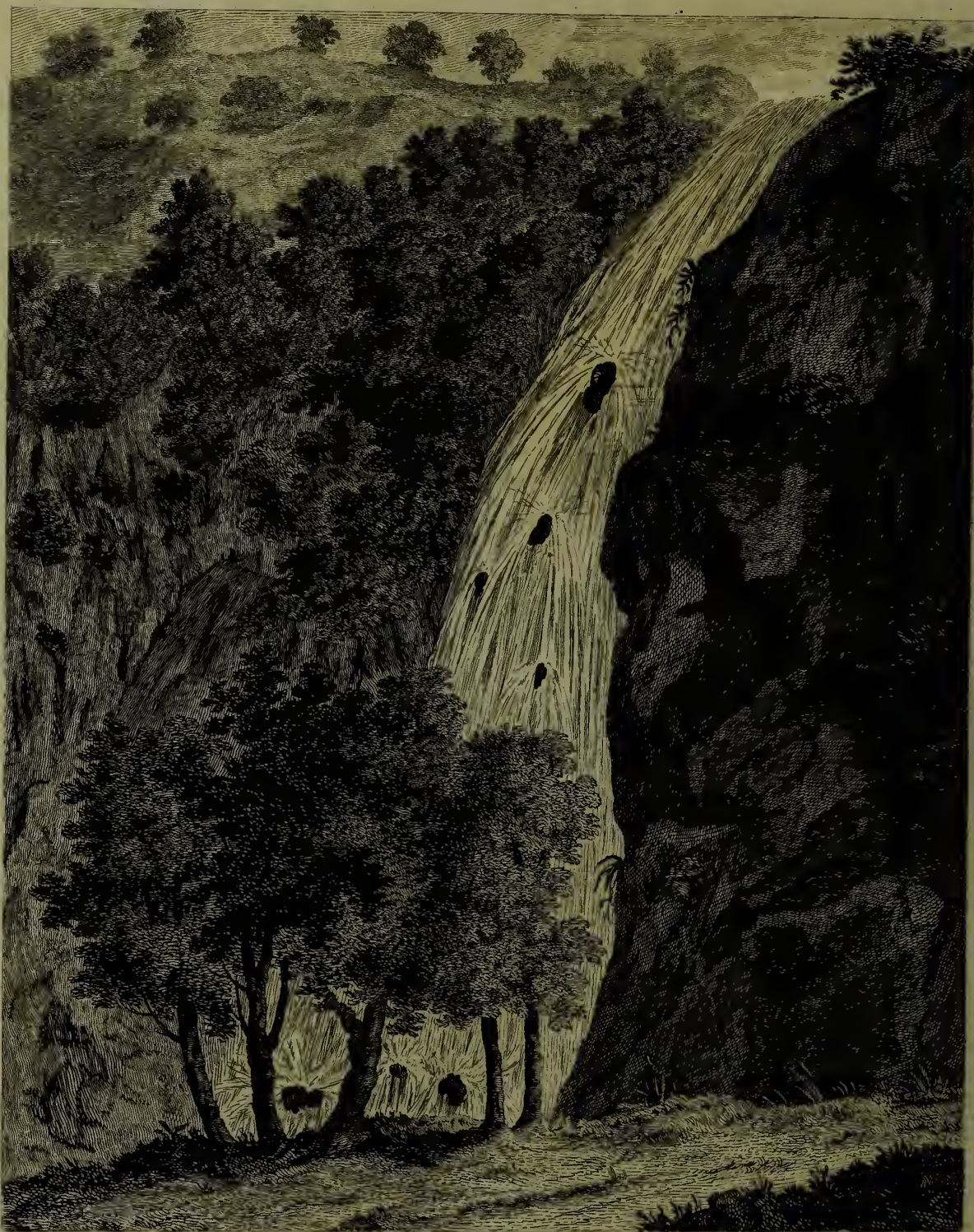
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J. Taylor sculp.

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1780.

A
T O U R
I N
I R E L A N D;
WITH
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
PRESENT STATE OF THAT KINGDOM:
MADE IN
THE YEARS 1776, 1777, and 1778.
AND
BROUGHT DOWN TO THE END OF 1779.

BY ARTHUR YOUNG, Esq; F.R.S.

Honorary Member of the Societies of DUBLIN, YORK and MANCHESTER;
The Oeconomical Society of BERNE; the Palatine Academy of Agriculture,
at MANHEIM, and the Physical Society at ZURICH.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED FOR T. CADELL, STRAND; AND J. DODSLEY, PALL-MALL.

M DCC LXXX.



COPY OF LONDON ADVERTISEMENT.

TO THE
IRISH SUBSCRIBERS.

IN the original propofals, and in my fucceeding advertisements, I promifed to publifh this work as foon as 500 names were received; and afterwards, as foon as 400 were gained in Ireland; at the fame time I mentioned the book being decorated with plates. With that intention I had many drawings executed, feveral of which (not inferted) were in the hands of the engraver; but finding the fubfcription fall fo far fhort of expectation, I was neceffitated to ftop all that were not finifhed. I flatter myfelf my fubfcribers will not think themfelves neglected, when I very faithfully affure them, that if I fell every book I have printed, I fhall lofe a fum to me confiderable by the undertaking: a circumftance rendered the more difagreeable, by there being 100 of my receipts in gentlemen's hands in Ireland, of which the moft repeated applications have not been fufficient to procure me any account whatever. I fhould not have mentioned thefe things but as an apology for the plates being fo few.

ANOTHER circumftance which I fhould not omit is the delivery of the book; in my firft irifh advertisements I engaged to deliver them in Dublin; but I was then an inhabitant of Ireland—to do it now, through the medium of a Dublin bookseller, would reduce the fubfcription much lower than the very loweft price the books will be fold to the trade at London for. A judgment may be formed of this from Mr. Wilfon, bookseller, at Dublin, charging 3s. per book for receiving fubfcriptions though no one in England reckons any more than one third of that money; he alfo charges the fame price for taking twelve at once from a nobleman, for no other trouble than receiving the money acrofs his counter, for which a London bookseller would blufh at making any charge at all. After fuch experience, I truft nobody will be furprized at my not configning the work to a Dublin bookseller for delivery: I fhould in fuch cafe expect a charge to a much greater amount per volume than the whole price of the book. It is for this reason that I am neceffitated to make the flight alteration of delivering the books, free of all charges, into the Liverpool packet, and configned to any perfon named to me for that purpofe.

ARTHUR YOUNG.

P R E F A C E.

N U M E R O U S as the publications on husbandry have become in almost every part of Europe, few of them let us into its actual state in any country. Authors seem to have disdained recording the practice, so much have they been employed in prescribing alterations. Several reasons may be assigned for this omission: to describe the agriculture of a province, it is necessary to travel into it, and among the writers who have been most voluminous upon this subject, the greater number have been confined to their own farms,——perhaps to their fire sides. It was impossible for them to have given detailed descriptions of what they had never seen.

T H E R E is also a greater temptation to the production of such didactic works as are most usual in agriculture, than to the less entertaining minutiae of common management. The man who composes a piece for instructing others how to conduct their lands, generally includes all sorts of soils, situations, and circumstances; his views are great, his work comprehensive, round, and complete, and every reader finds something that suits him. The success which has attended the *complete bodies*, *general treatises*, and *dictionaries* of the subject, though compiled by men as much acquainted with astronomy, as with agriculture, must have been owing to these circumstances: as the good reception of well written, though erroneous theories, is, to *the agreeable* bearing away the palm due to *the useful* alone. But a reader who would wish to receive real information, should readily give up the pleasure of being amused for the use of being instructed; the number of such however, will always be comparatively small, and the writer who aims simply at utility, must expect his productions to give place to those of a more amusing turn. When a long course of years has proved the importance of the facts he has collected, his labours will probably have their due estimation.

T H E details of common management are dry and unentertaining; nor is it easy to render them interesting by ornaments of style. The tillage with which the peasant prepares the ground; the manure with which he fertilizes it; the quantities of the seed of the several species of grain
a which

which he commits to it; and the products that repay his industry, necessarily in the recital run into chains of repetition, which tire the ear, and fatigue the imagination. Great however is the structure raised on this foundation: it may be dry, but it is important, for these are the circumstances upon which depend the wealth, prosperity, and power of nations. The minutiae of the farmer's management, low, and seemingly inconsiderable as he is, are so many links of a chain which connect him with the State. Kings ought not to forget that the splendour of majesty is derived from the sweat of industrious, and too often oppressed peasants. The rapacious conqueror who destroys, and the great statesman who protects humanity, are equally indebted for their power to the care with which the farmer cultivates his fields. The monarch of these realms must know, that when he is sitting on his throne at Westminster, surrounded by nothing but state and magnificence, that the poorest, the most oppressed, the most unhappy peasant, in the remotest corner of Ireland, contributes his share to the support of the gaiety that enlivens, and the splendour that adorns the scene.

If such is the importance of these little movements in the great machine of the State, to know and to understand them, surely deserves the attention of men, who are willing to sacrifice their amusement to their information. This is in other words saying, that the state of common husbandry, in all its variations and connections ought to be well understood. Of little consequence must precepts, maxims, and directions for a better conduct appear, unless we really know the evils that are to be remedied, and the practices that are to be condemned. Without this necessary knowledge, the recommendations of the most ingenious speculative author, must be almost useless; and the labours of the experimentalist, want much of the application which is to render his facts important. The object of every writer in rural œconomics is to make husbandry better. But before they attempt that, should they not know what it is? This idea has often made me, in reading books of agriculture, lament that the first chapter of every practical work, was not a plain detailed account of the common management in the parish or neighbourhood, where the author lived and wrote.

To render this sort of knowledge general and complete, it is necessary that every gentleman residing in the country, and practising agriculture, should write and publish an account of so much as falls within the sphere of his observation: The experience of centuries has shewn us how much this may be expected. Were it done, such journeies as I have registered and published, would have been perfectly unnecessary. A man who has attended some years to husbandry in one place, would have it in his power to gain a far better and more particular account of every circumstance than it is possible a traveller should procure.

THESE

THESE accounts however having no existence, such as I have more than once offered to the public, may have their use: what should chiefly induce the reader to think so, is their being taken on the spot, from the mouths of gentlemen or farmers whoreside in the districts, they describe--that the accounts are however perfect, cannot be expected-----they are proportionally so to the sagacity, information, and experience of the person who speaks. When my intelligence was received from a company of gentlemen, I always waited for their settling among themselves any difference of opinion before I entered the minute; and if they did not agree, took the average of the sums or quantities in question.

THE unbounded hospitality of a kingdom in which every country gentleman is by necessity a farmer, left me under very few difficulties, in gaining intelligence: but I did not trust entirely to this source, having upon most occasions common farmers summoned to assist at the consultations, the design of which was my information. Nor did I neglect opportunities of making enquiries of the cottagers, and of examining into their situation and way of living-----the information I procured in this line, I apprehend to be of consequence: in England we know pretty well the state of the poor, but their circumstances in other countries ought to be one of the first objects of a traveller's attention, since from their ease or oppression, a multitude of conclusions may be drawn relative to government, wealth, and national prosperity.

THAT the agriculture of both these islands is of the highest importance, no one will deny, and perhaps, when the present state of Europe is well considered, it will in a political light be deemed more so than ever it was at any former period. It is true we are at present in a war with France, but I must own, the period appears to me fast approaching, when all the western part of Europe will find an absolute necessity of uniting in the closest bands. If the scene which has annihilated Dantzick, was now acting at Hamburgh and Amsterdam, I do not see where the power is to be found, to prevent or revenge it. The consequence of France has been long declining, and the transfer of her exertions from the land to the sea service, may be fatal to the liberties of Europe. If ever the fatal day comes, when that exertion is to be made, all her neighbours would feel it their common interest to second and support her. Much would it then be regretted, that the strength and resources of those powers should have been so exhausted by wars among themselves, as to be disabled in the moment when most signally wanted. Then it would appear, that France should have directed all her attention to her army, and Britain to her navy, as the best united means of resisting what Lord Chesterfield very justly terms, "new devils," arising in Europe. But from whatever quarter danger may arise to Great Britain, it much behoves her, while other powers are rising so incredibly

in force, to take every means that providence permits, to strengthen herself; and that the most secure and solid way of doing this, is by carrying all the arts of cultivation in both islands, to the highest pitch of perfection that is practical, nobody will I apprehend deny.

THAT too much national attention cannot be given to agriculture, never appeared so strong as it does in the present period. The legislature of this kingdom has for a century bent all its endeavours to promote the *commercial system*. The statute book is crowded with laws for the encouragement of manufactures, commerce, and colonies, and in some instances at the expence of the improvement of the national soil. Yet in that period only one great agricultural measure was embraced, the bounty on the export of corn, frittered down to the present system, which turns out with or without, but certainly by the connivance of law, to be a constant *import scheme*, in order to reduce the prices of the earth's products, in favour of those classes whose monopolizing spirit has had the direct tendency to beggar and ruin the kingdom. Whoever considers attentively the *commercial* conduct of Great Britain, will not think there is any thing paradoxical in this assertion.

THE entire administration of the colonies has been commercial. It has been made a trader's project, and the spirit of monopoly pervaded every step of our progress in planting and rearing those settlements. They were governed by the narrow spirit of a counting house, which in the plantation of countries formed to be the residence of great nations, neither saw nor permitted any thing better than a monopolized market. It was this spirit that shackled those countries in such commercial fetters as to render them incapable of contributing to the necessities of the general government of the empire. Had a more liberal policy been embraced, such contributions would have been early introduced, with a capability (from a free commerce) of supporting them. The commercial government gave up the advantage of all contribution for the greater profit of monopoly: it was evident that *both* could not be had, till those countries became too great and powerful to be forced into new and unjust habits. Nothing therefore can be more idle than to say, that this set of men, or the other administration, or that great minister, occasioned the american war. It was not the stamp act, nor the repeal of the stamp act; it was neither Lord Rockingham nor Lord North, but it was that baleful monopolizing spirit of commerce that wished to govern great nations, on the maxims of the counter. That did govern them so; and in the case of Ireland and the Indies does still govern them so. Had not the trader's system been embraced, America would, in consequence of taxation, have been long ago united with Britain; but our traders knew very well that a free commerce would follow a union.

NOR

NOR is it only in the loss of vast territories that we feel the direful effects of the monopolizing spirit. The greatest part of the national debt is owing to the two last wars, which cost us one hundred millions sterling, and arose solely from mercantile causes: that of 1740 was a war for the protection of english smugglers: and that of 1756, sprung from an apprehension that the french would divide the american market with our traders: the present, which may be as expensive before it is finished as either of the former, was owing to a determination to secure the market we had gained. But all the wars are for markets or smuggling, or trade or manufacture. That vast debt which debilitates the kingdom, those taxes we pay for having lost thirteen provinces, and the hazard we now run of losing or ruining Ireland, are all owing to the former predilection of our government for the trading system.

I should go much beyond the line of truth to declare, that trade and manufacture are necessarily ruinous. The very contrary is my opinion; extensive manufactures, and a flourishing commerce, are the very best friends of agriculture, as I have endeavoured to shew more at large in my *Political Arithmetic*. What I would urge here is, that trade is an admirable thing; but a trading government a most pernicious one. Protect and encourage merchants and manufacturers in every exertion of their industry; but listen not to them in the legislature. They never yet were the fathers of a scheme that had not monopoly for its principle. It has been the fatality of our government to attend to them on every occasion. We are, at this moment, in the full maturity of the evils which a legislature, influenced by traders, can bring upon a country. Nor can I without astonishment view the commercial jealousy that has arisen in Europe in the last 50 years. Other nations have caught of us the commercial spirit. They have attributed the effects of the noblest and most perfect system of freedom the world has ever seen, to the *trade* of the country. Deluded mortals! Give your subjects the liberty which englishmen enjoy, and trade will spring up one among the many luxuriant branches of that wide extended tree. LIBERTY, not trade, has been the cause of England's greatness. Commerce and all its consequences have been the *effect*, not the cause of our happiness. France has, with the same sort of folly, overlooked the simple and obvious advantage of improving her noble territory for the more precarious profits of trade: and what are the consequences? She too has hazarded those wars for commerce, which have exhausted her resources, mortgaged her revenues, and debilitated every principle of her national strength.

WHEN the present rage for monopoly (the true characteristic of the commercial system) has half beggared Europe with the thirst of wealth; and that nations have grown wiser by experience, they will, it is to be hoped, found
their

their greatness in the full cultivation of their territories; the wealth resulting from that exertion, will remain at home, and be secure; nothing in that progress will kindle the jealousy of neighbours—no vile monopolies—no restrictions—no regulating duties are wanting: perpetual wars, heavy debts, and ruinous taxes, will not be necessary to extend and promote agriculture, inseparable as they have been from commerce.

To a philosophical eye the present conduct of commercial Europe is an inexplicable enigma. The mercantile system of England having grasped at and possessed the monopoly of the north american market, France, in the transactions which preceded the war of 1756, manifested the plainest jealousy of our power in North America: the most ill founded jealousy, as experience has shewn, that could actuate a nation. The two countries engaged in the war upon a subject merely commercial; and it cost, between them, above an hundred millions sterling, the one to be driven out of Canada, and the other to lose America by rebellion. Is it possible that the rulers of these two kingdoms, if they had an inclination to amuse themselves with expending such a sum, had so poor a genius that they could not devise the means of doing it *at home*, in the encouragement of agriculture and arts; in inclosures, navigations, roads, harbours, the cultivation of wastes, draining marshes, raising palaces? &c.

In the Duke de Choiseul's ministry we were on the point of another commercial war, we had a greater trade to India than France, and in order to balance it, that kingdom was ready to expend fifty millions more. Then Spain takes commercial umbrage, at our settling with commercial views on a rock, the great products of which are seals and penguins; the affair could not cost less than five millions; but that is a trifle in the affairs of trade—For see, we are now engaged in a fresh career of commerce with America, and the whole house of Bourbon. Upon a moderate computation, France, Spain, and Britain, will each of them spend enough in it to improve three or four provinces to the highest pitch of cultivation; which instead of slaughtering three or four hundred thousand men, and leaving thrice that number of widows and orphans, would render a greater number of families happy for life, and leave a rich and increasing legacy of ease and plenty to their posterity: and all the slaughter, ruin, poverty and destruction, that is thus brought on the human species, is for the sake of commerce.

It was the commercial system that founded those colonies—commercial profits reared them—commercial avarice monopolized them—and commercial ignorance now wars to recover the possession of what is not intrinsically worth the powder and ball that are shot away in the quarrel. The same baneful commercial genius influences France and Spain to exhaust their revenues, ruin their subjects, and stagnate every branch of domestic industry, for distant, ideal, and precarious commercial advantages.

BUT to return—The manufactures, commerce, and fisheries of Ireland, are objects of much importance to Great Britain, and as the information I
procured

procured concerning them, was chiefly gained on the spot, and given me without those intentions of deceiving, which are too common, when such particulars are introduced politically to the world, I believe the reader will not be sorry at my having given them a place.

THE general view of the kingdom I have given from the whole of the intelligence, will I flatter myself, throw Ireland into that just light, in which she has not hitherto appeared. The many erroneous ideas concerning the rental, wealth, and consequence of that island, with which every book is filled that treats of it, will be here explained. The reader will find the progress of national prosperity, its present state, and the vast field of improvement which Ireland will continue, until it comes to be every thing to Britain which the warmest patriot could wish. For so happy a state to arrive, nothing is wanting but this country to change her policy, and cherish that industry she has hitherto seemed so anxious to shackle.

AFTER having travelled through the greatest part of the kingdom, I found, upon sitting down to give an account of those circumstances, not immediately arising from the husbandry of the country, that I was in want of many public accounts of trade, manufactures, taxes, &c. not to be procured upon a journey. I was for some time in correspondence with some friends in Dublin to gain these, but after passing near a twelve-month in expectation, I found it would be impossible to procure the necessary papers without going thither; I accordingly went and resided nine weeks in that city, very busily employed in examining and transcribing public records and accounts, which enabled me to give such a detail of those subjects, as has not hitherto been laid before the public. I may without exaggeration assert, that all these objects for want of industry in those who have written concerning Ireland, have been treated in the way of guess, conjecture, and declamation, to answer particular purposes, instead of any detail of facts. Part of these enquiries may be uninteresting to those who do not reside in the country, but I am nevertheless so much convinced of their importance to England, as well as to Ireland, that I have determined to explain them as fully as I was able, tedious as they may appear to those, who read rather for amusement, than information. Perhaps there would be no impropriety in prefixing to all the productions I venture before the public, this caution: I have been reproached for being tedious, but I profess, to treat that subject which I think (vainly perhaps) I understand, in so detailed a manner, that if my pieces were not unentertaining, they would very indifferently answer the end, to accomplish which, I have travelled, practised and written.

HUSBANDRY is an art that has hitherto owed less to reasoning than I believe any other. I know not of any discoveries, or a single beneficial practice that
has

has clearly flowed from this source. But every one is well acquainted with many that have been the result of experiment and registered observation. There is no people existing so backward but have some good practices to copy, as well as errors to avoid. To describe both is to give a chain of connected facts that must, in the end, prove useful to such as will read and digest them with attention and reflection: but I am ready to admit that this is a study very far from amusing. The registers of such journies, as I have employed a great deal of time and expence in making, must necessarily be exceedingly dull to those who read for pleasure: so disagreeable, that they will certainly throw down the volume with as much disgust as they would tables of arithmetic. The flattering circumstance of a successful publication is not thus to be expected. The present age is much too idle to buy books that will not banish *l'ennuye* from a single hour. Success depends on amusement. The historical performances of this age and nation, which have proved so honourable to their authors, would have met with a less brilliant success, had not the charms of style rendered them as amusing as a romance. Their extreme popularity is perhaps built on rivalling, not only the authors that had before treated the same subjects, but Sir Charles Grandison and Julia. That this observation, however, when applied to books of agriculture is just, will appear from the very ill success met with by authors of capital merit, and the great sales that have attended the most miserable performances. The merit of Mr. Lisle's husbandry has, in many years, carried it but into the second edition. Mr. Hitt's treatise on husbandry has not been re-printed, and is very little known, yet there are particulars in it of more merit than half a score volumes that have been successful. Even the elegant essays on husbandry of my old and much regretted friend Mr. Harte, have not been re-printed. Proofs to which many more might be added, that the publick reception does not always mark the merit of a book.

ANY real utility that may result from this work out of Ireland, can only be from those who determine steadily to become acquainted with all the facts they can procure, in order to compare, combine, and draw conclusions from them. To men thus scientific, too many facts can never be published; and with such, I flatter myself, I shall be readily pardoned for having added so many to the number. Indeed I sometimes smile in reading performances, the authors of which think me of importance enough to do me the honour of abusing for whole pages together, at the very time that they make extremely free with information they never might have known, had my labours been wrought, like their own, at a fire side. But while I am happy in the good opinion, and instructed in the correspondence of some of the first characters in Europe—while my writings will stand the test with such men as a Harte, a Haller, and an Arbuthnot, I am perfectly indifferent to the ideas of the Moores, Shirleys, Marshals, and Wimpeys of the age.

THERE

THERE is one part of these papers which particularly demands an apology. I have ventured to recommend to the gentlemen of Ireland several courses of husbandry, as improvements upon what I found them practicing, and have given directions how they should be performed. This is going a little out of my way ; for it is that species of writing which I am apt to condemn. Instructions in this subject should, more than in any other, be gathered simply from the register of experiments and repeated observations : but having been requested by many gentlemen on the journey to do it, I have submitted to their opinion, rather in contradiction to my own. I have reflected attentively on the circumstances of Ireland before I drew up these recommendations ; and I believe, that those who are best acquainted with the kingdom, will not think what I have proposed entirely inapplicable.

HAVING given such explanations of the design of this work as appeared necessary, there only remains to insert the names of those who were pleased to favour me with their assistance in executing it.

TO the following persons only I was indebted for recommendations to Ireland :

The Earl of Shelburne.
 The Dowager Lady Middleton.
 Mrs. Vesey.
 Edmund Burke, Esq;
 Samuel Whitbread, Esq;
 John Arbuthnot, Esq;
 Governor Pownall.
 Lord Kenmare.
 John Baker Holroyd, Esq;
 David Barclay, Esq;

SUCH were the small number of persons in England, who, before I went, took the trouble to interest themselves in the undertaking. As to the great body of absentees, knowing that there was not one but could contribute to my being well informed, by cards to their agents, I took the most effectual means of letting them know my intention ; but except the few just named, the design was not happy enough to appear in such a light, as to induce them to contribute to it. Indeed there are too many possessors of great estates in Ireland, who wish to know nothing more of it than the remittance of their rents.

THE circumstance was rather discouraging, and I began to apprehend that I might want information; but the reception I met at Dublin immediately removed it ; and the following list of those who were so obliging as to take
 b every

every means of having me perfectly well informed, will shew that I was not disappointed.

The Earl of Harcourt, Lord Lieutenant,

Earl of Charlemount, *Dublin*

Mr. Machpharland, *Luttrells Town*

Right Hon. Thomas Conolly

—— Clements, Esq; *Killadoon*

Colonel Marley, *Celbridge*

Duke of Leinster, *Castleton*

—— Jones, Esq; *Dolleston*

Right Hon H. L. Rowley, *Summer Hill*

Earl of Mornington

Right Hon. William Burton, *Slaine Castle*

—— Jeb, Esq; *Slaine*

Mr. Gerard, *Gibbstown*

Earl of Bective, *Heardfort*

Lord Longford, *Packenham*

Captain Johnston

Rev. Dean Coote, *Shaen Castle*

—— Brown, Esq;

Mr. Butler, near *Carlow*

—— Mercer, Esq; *Laughlin bridge*

Gervas Parker Bush, Esq; *Kilfaine*

Colonel Nun

Earl of Courtown

Lieut. General Cunningham, *Mount Kennedy*

Baron Hamilton, *Ballybrigen*

Lord Chief Baron Forster, *Cullen*

Lord Gosfort, *Market Hill*

His Grace the Lord Primate, *Ardmagh*

Mr. William Macgeough, *ditto*

Bishop of Clonfert

Maxwell Close, Esq;

—— Richardson, Esq;

—— Leslie, Esq; *Glaslough*

—— Workman, Esq; *Mahon*

Right Hon. William Brownlow, *Lurgan*

—— Warren, *Warrenstown*

Mr. Clibborn, *ditto*

The Bishop of Down, *Lisburne*

John Alexander, Esq; *Belfast*

—— Portis, Esq; *ditto*

Arthur Buntin, Esq; *ditto*

Mr. Holmes, *ditto*

Dr. Halliday, *ditto*

Patrick Savage, Esq; *Porta Ferry*

—— Ainsworth, Esq; *Strangford*

John O'Neal, Esq; *Shaen Castle*

James Leslie, Esq; *Leslie Hill*

Rev. Mr. Leslie

Right Hon. Richard Jackson, *Cole-raine*

Robert Alexander, Esq; *Derry*

Rev. Mr. Bernard

Rev. Mr. Golding, *Clonleigh*

Alexander Montgomery, Esq; *Mount Charles*

Thomas Nesbitt, Esq;

Sir James Caldwell, Bart. *Castle Caldwell*

The Earl of Ross, *Belleisle*

Lord Viscount Inniskilling, *Florence Court*

Earl of Farnham, *Farnham*

W. G. Newcomen, Esq; *Ballyclough*

Thomas Mahon, Esq; *Strokestown*

The Bishop of Elphin, *Elphin*

Bishop of Kilmore

The Hon. Thomas Fitzmaurice, *Ballymoat*

The Rt. Hon. Joshua Cooper, *Mecra*

Lewis Irvine, Esq; *Tanrego*

—— Brown, Esq; *Sortland*

Right Hon. Thomas King, *Ballyna*

Bishop of Killalla, *Killalla*

—— Hutchinson, Esq; *ditto*

The Earl of Altamont, *Westport*

Mr.

Mr. Lindfay, <i>Hollymount</i>	Arthur Blennerhasset, Esq; <i>Arbella</i>
His Grace the Archbishop of Tuam,	Earl of Glandore, <i>Ardfert</i>
<i>Tuam</i>	Lord Crosbie, <i>ditto</i>
Robert French, Esq; <i>Moniva</i>	Robert Fitzgerald, Esq; <i>Woodford</i>
Mr. Andrew Trench, <i>Galway</i>	Edward Leslie, Esq; <i>Tarbat</i>
Frederic Trench, Esq; <i>Woodlawn</i>	Mrs. Quin, <i>Adair</i>
Robert Gregory, Esq; <i>Kiltartan</i>	Right Hon. Silver Oliver, <i>Castle</i>
Sir Lucius O'Brien, Bart. <i>Drummo-</i>	<i>Oliver</i>
<i>land</i>	Earl of Clanwilliam
Mr. Robert Fitzgerald	—— Macarthy, jun. Esq; <i>Spring</i>
Mr. Singleton	<i>House</i>
Mr. Thomas Marks, <i>Limerick</i>	Mr. Allen
Richard Aldworth, Esq; <i>Annsgrrove</i>	Lord de Montalt, <i>Dundrum</i>
Lord Donneraile, <i>Donneraile</i>	Right Hon. Sir William Osborne,
Denham Jepson, Esq; <i>Mallow</i>	Bart. <i>Newtown</i>
Denham Jepson, jun. Esq; <i>ditto</i>	—— Moore, Esq; <i>Marlefield</i>
Robert Gordon, Esq; <i>Newgrove</i>	Earl of Tyrone, <i>Curraghmoor</i>
St. John Jefferyes, Esq; <i>Blarney Castle</i>	Cornelius Bolton, Esq; <i>Ballycavern</i>
Dominick Trent, Esq; <i>Dunkettle</i>	Cornelius Bolton, jun. Esq; <i>ditto</i>
The Earl of Shannon, <i>Castle Martyr</i>	Richard Nevill, Esq; <i>Furness</i>
Robert Longfield, Esq; <i>Castle Mary</i>	John Lloyd, Esq; <i>Gloster</i>
Earl of Inchiquin, <i>Rostellan</i>	Peter Holmes, Esq; <i>Johnstown</i>
Rev. the Dean of Corke, <i>Corke</i>	Michael Head, Esq; <i>Derry</i>
Rev. Archdeacon Oliver	Rev. Mr. Lloyd, <i>Cullen</i>
Sir John Croulthurst, Bart.	Lord Viscount Kingsborough,
—— Herbert, Esq; <i>Mucrus</i>	<i>Mitchelstown</i>

SUCH are the contributors to this work. It is with the utmost pleasure I reflect on the liberal, polite, and friendly manner in which I was received by such a number of persons, among whom are many of the most distinguished characters in Ireland—Characters that would reflect a lustre upon any nation.

THE most careless eye will discern at once the great advantages, which the uncommon, but polite hospitality of the nation, united with an eagerness to do whatever had the most distant appearance of being serviceable to their country, gave me in describing it. If, with all these advantages, Ireland is not in future much better known than ever she was before, the fault is entirely mine, and I have little to plead in extenuation of it.

TO THE
I R I S H R E A D E R.

IN case of any errors or omissions being discovered in the following papers, by readers whose situation enables them to ascertain the truth, the author will be particularly obliged by a communication directed to him *at Bradfield Hall, near Bury, Suffolk*; and if the work should hereafter be reprinted, due attention shall be paid to such corrections.

JANUARY 24th, 1780:

A L I S T OF THE S U B S C R I B E R S.

A.

HER Highness the Princess D'Ascoff
Right Hon. the Earl of Altamont
Richard Aldworth, Esq;
Mrs. Aldworth
Thomas Adderley, Esq;
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J. Taylor sculp.

An Irish Cabin.

A

T O U R, &c.

JUNE 19th, 1776, arrived at Holyhead, after an instructive journey through a part of England and Wales I had not seen before. Found the packet, the Claremont, captain Taylor, would sail very soon. After a tedious passage of twenty-two hours, landed on the 20th, in the morning, at Dunlary, four miles from Dublin, a city which much exceeded my expectation; the public buildings are magnificent, very many of the streets regularly laid out, and exceedingly well built. The front of the parliament-house is grand; though not so light as a more open finishing of the roof would have made it. The apartments are spacious, elegant, and convenient, much beyond that heap of confusion at Westminster, so inferior to the magnificence to be looked for in the seat of empire. I was so fortunate as to arrive just in time to see Lord Harcourt, with the usual ceremonies, prorogue the parliament. Trinity college is a beautiful building and a numerous society; the library is a very fine room, and well filled. The new exchange will be another edifice to do honour to Ireland; it is elegant, cost 40,000 l. but deserves a better situation. From every thing I saw, I was

A

struck

struck with all those appearances of wealth which the capital of a thriving community may be supposed to exhibit. Happy if I find through the country in diffused prosperity the right source of this splendor! The common computation of inhabitants 200,000, but I should suppose exaggerated. Others guessed the number 140, or 150,000.

JUNE 21st, introduced by Colonel Burton to the Lord Lieutenant, who was pleased to enter into conversation with me on my intended journey, made many remarks on the agriculture of several Irish counties, and shewed himself to be an excellent farmer, particularly in draining. Viewed the Duke of Leinster's house, which is a very large stone edifice, the front simple but elegant, the pediment light, there are several good rooms; but a circumstance unrivaled is the court, which is spacious and magnificent, the opening behind the house is also beautiful. In the evening to the Rotunda, a circular room, 90 feet diameter, an imitation of Ranelagh, provided with a band of music.

THE barracks are a vast building, raised in a plain stile, of many divisions, the principle front is of an immense length. They contain every convenience for ten regiments.

JUNE 23d. Lord Charlemont's house in Dublin, is equally elegant and convenient, the apartments large, handsome, and well disposed, containing some good pictures, particularly one by Rembrandt, of Judas throwing the money on the floor, with a strong expression of guilt and remorse; the whole group fine. In the same room is a portrait of Cæsar Borgia by Titian. The library is a most elegant apartment, of about 40 by 30, and of such a height, as to form a pleasing proportion, the light is well managed, coming in from the cove of the ceiling, and has an exceeding good effect; at one end is a pretty anti-room, with a fine copy of the Venus de Medicis, and at the other, two
small

small rooms, one a cabinet of pictures, and antiquities, the other medals. In the collection also of Robert Fitzgerald, Esq; in Merion Square, are several pieces which very well deserve a traveller's attention.—It was the best I saw in Dublin. Before I quit that city, I observe, on the houses in general, that what they call their two-roomed ones, are good and convenient. Mr. Latouche's, in Stephen's Green, I was shewn as a model of this sort, and I found it well contrived, and finished elegantly. Drove to Lord Charlemont's villa at Marino, near the city, where his Lordship has formed a pleasing lawn, margined in the higher part by a well-planted thriving shrubbery, and on a rising ground a banqueting room, which ranks very high among the most beautiful edifices I have any where seen; it has much elegance, lightness, and effect, and commands a fine prospect; the rising ground on which it stands slopes off to an agreeable accompaniment of wood, beyond which, on one side, is Dublin harbour, which here has the appearance of a noble river crowded with ships moving to and from the capital. On the other side is a shore spotted with white buildings, and beyond it the hills of Wicklow, presenting an outline extremely various. The other part of the view (it would be more perfect if the city was planted out) is varied, in some places nothing but wood, in others, breaks of prospect. The lawn, which is extensive, is new grass, and appears to be excellently laid down, the herbage a fine crop of white clover, (*trifolium repens*), trefoile, rib-grass, (*plantage lanceolata*), and other good plants. Returned to Dublin and made inquiries into other points, the prices of provisions, &c. (for which see the tables at the end of the book). The expences of a family in proportion to those of London are, as 5 to 8.

HAVING the year following lived more than two months in Dublin, I am able to speak to a few points, which, as a mere traveller I could not have done. The information I before re-

ceived of the prices of living is correct. Fish and poultry are plentiful and very cheap. Good lodgings almost as dear as they are in London ; though we were well accommodated (dirt excepted) for two guineas and an half a week. All the lower ranks in this city have no idea of english cleanliness, either in apartments, persons, or cookery. There is a very good society in Dublin in a parliament winter—a great round of dinners, and parties ; and balls, and suppers every night in the week, some of which are very elegant, but you almost every where meet a company much too numerous for the size of the apartments. They have two assemblies on the plan of those of London, in Fishamble-street, and at the Rotunda ; and two gentlemens clubs, Anthry's and Daly's, very well regulated ; I heard some anecdotes of deep play at the latter, though never to the excess common at London. An ill-judged and unsuccessful attempt was made to establish the Italian Opera, which existed but with scarcely any life for this one winter ; of course they could rise no higher than a comic one. *La buona Figliuola*, *la Frascatana*, and *il Gelofo in Cimento*, were repeatedly performed, or rather murdered, except the parts of *Sestini*. The house was generally empty and miserably cold. So much knowledge of the state of a country is gained by hearing the debates of a parliament, that I often frequented the gallery of the house of commons. Since Mr. Flood has been silenced with the vice-treasurership of Ireland, Mr. Daly, Mr. Gratten, Sir William Osborn, and the prime serjeant Burgh, are reckoned high among the Irish orators. I heard many very eloquent speeches, but I cannot say they struck me like the exertion of the abilities of irishmen in the english house of commons, owing perhaps to the reflection both on the speaker and auditor, that the attorney general of England, with a dash of his pen, can reverse, alter, or entirely do away the matured result of all the eloquence, and all the abilities of this whole assembly. Before I conclude with Dublin I shall only remark, that walking in the streets there, from the narrowness
and

and populoufness of the principal thoroughfares, as well as from the dirt and wretchedness of the canaille, is a most uneasy and disgusting exercise.

JUNE 24th; left Dublin and passed through the Phœnix park, a very pleasing ground, at the bottom of which, to the left, the Liffy forms a variety of landscapes: this is the most beautiful environ of Dublin. Take the road to Luttrell's town through a various scenery on the banks of the river. That domain is a considerable one in extent, being above 400 acres within the wall, Irish measure; in the front of the house is a fine lawn bounded by rich woods, through which are many ridings, four miles in extent. From the road towards the house, they lead through a very fine glen, by the side of a stream falling over a rocky bed, through the dark woods, with great variety on the sides of steep slopes, at the bottom of which the Liffy is either heard or seen indistinctly; these woods are of great extent, and so near the capital, form a retirement exceedingly beautiful. Lord Irnham and Colonel Luttrell have brought in the assistance of agriculture to add to the beauties of the place, they have kept a part of the lands in cultivation in order to lay them down the better to grass; 150 acres have been done, and above 200 acres most effectually drained in the covered manner filled with stones. These works are well executed. The drains are also made under the roads in all wet places, with lateral short ones to take off the water instead of leaving it, as is common, to soak against the causeway, which is an excellent method. Great use has been made of lime-stone gravel in the improvements, the effect of which is so considerable, that in several spots where it was laid on 10 years ago, the superiority of the grass is now similar to what one would expect from a fresh dunging.

MR.

MR. MACFARLAN the steward has at some distance from the grounds a farm which he is bringing into high order. His ditches are large, deep, and well cut, and he has made many drains. Lime he has used much, and experimentally against spots unlimited, and found the benefit very great; the soil, a strong, wet, stoney loam on lime stone. He lays 160 barrels an acre, at the expence of seven pence a barrel, and finds that it will last as long as the gravel. For meadow lands, he prefers it mixed with earth, but on tillage gravel. Soot he buys at Dublin for sowing over the wheat in april to kill the red worm, for which it answers, and also improves the crop. Another circumstance in which he differs from the farmers, is cutting straw into chaff, and also in beginning to plough his fallows in autumn. He much prefers ploughing with oxen to horses. The following particulars he gave me of the general state of husbandry in the county of Dublin: farms about 100 l. a year, more above than under, some to 300 l. a year. The soil on the surface a stoney yellow clay, 18 inches deep on lime-stone gravel, with some exceptions of slate-stone, rents about 1 l. 11 s. 6 d: from 10 s. 6 d. to 3 l. 3 s. courses most general,

1. Fallow.
 2. Wheat. Sow 1 barrel, and get on an average 8 barrels.
 3. Oats. Sow 2 barrels, get from 12 to 20.
- Sometimes 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Clover. 5. Wheat. 6. Oats. They plough four times for wheat, on clover but once, feed their clover the year through. No sain-foine.

MANY potatoes in the ridgeway 7 feet broad, and the furrows $3\frac{1}{2}$. Cut generally 18 to 24 inches deep, in order to throw up some lime-stone gravel: always dung for them 320 one horse loads to an acre at about 5 or 6 to a ton, are spread over the 7 feet. Lay the sets upon the dung, dig a spit and shovel it; then dig another spit, and another shovelling, the setts 12 inches asunder; from 4 to 5 barrels plant an acre. Weed, but no hoeing;

ing ; take them up with the spade, and the crop from 60 to 70 barrels : all are planted for home-use, but they give their pigs the small ones, boiled ; and they will fatten them to be fine bacon, but give some butter-milk, and a week or two before they are killed some offal corn. For fowls, boil them to a mash, and mix with butter-milk, which fattens them exceedingly well. The price of potatoes on an average 20d. per cwt. the most productive sorts are the white kidney, and the white Munster. Limestone gravel the general manure of the country ; they lay 3 or 400, one horse-cart loads per acre ; it will last from 15 to 20 years, and is of the greatest benefit ; it appears immediately : the expence usually 1l. 11s. 6d. per acre. Spread it on the fallow, after the first plowing. They go much to Dublin for fullage of the streets to lay on their hay grounds.

Good grass-land letts at 40s. an acre ; five miles round Dublin from 40s. to 10l. on an average about 3l. 8s. Mow most of it for hay ; a good crop 20 load at 4 cwt. an acre round Dublin ; through the county 12 load an acre. Many dairies kept for letting from 5l. 15s. to 6l. 5s. per cow ; the dairyman finds labour, but has horses enough kept him to draw the milk to Dublin.

ON an average a cow will require, for her summer and winter food, an acre and an half, but not of the best grass.—Of that an acre would do.—The breed the old Irish ; the English cows do not give so much milk, from 4 to 6lb. of butter a cow the produce per week : the butter-milk sells from 4s. to 6s. per barrel. A good cow should give 8 quarts a day, if less the cowman rejects her. The winter food hay. Very few swine kept, except by cottagers. Sheep they buy in june or july, and sell them from september until march ; buy in wethers three years old, at 20s. and sell them out at 1l. 11s. 6d. but give them hay. Plough with oxen four in a plough ; but in *goring*, or *cross-plowing*, fix,
and

and do half an acre a day. To 100 acres arable there muſt be fix bullocks and eight horſes.

Plough nine inches deep at *goring*; price of ploughing, ſowing, and harrowing, 16s. to 20s. an acre. Lay their fields in 4 foot lands. Keeping horſes, 9l. a year each. No cutting of ſtraw into chaff among the common farmers: the plough oxen they work on ſtraw. They have more horſes than oxen; put them to work at three years old, keep them at it till nine, then fatten them. They break their ſtubbles in may or june. In hireing and ſtocking farms, they will, with 80l. take as many acres, dividing it as follow, on 80 acres.

	£.	s.				£.	s.	d.
6 Horſes at	3	3	-	-	-	18	18	0
4 Oxen	3	0	-	-	-	12	0	0
4 Cows	2	10	-	-	-	10	0	0
2 Pigs		18	-	-	-	1	16	0
4 Irish cars	1	7	-	-	-	5	8	0
2 Ploughs	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
2 Harrows	-	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
Harneſs	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	0
Sundries	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0
Furniture	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0
House-keeping the firſt year	-	-	-	-	-	6	0	0
1 Man 4l. and 1 boy, 2l. wages	-	-	-	-	-	6	0	0
1 Maid	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Seed 13 acres, wheat 20s. }	-	-	-	-	-	23	8	0
Oats 13 acres 16s. }	-	-	-	-	-			
<hr/>								
£. 101							1	0
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For part of which he will run in debt. Land ſells in general, through the county, at 22 years purchaſe. Till within three
years

years it rose much, from 1762 to 1772; since that it has rather fallen. Tythes none taken in kind, compounded by the acre. Wheat and barley 5s. 6d. Oats 2s. 9d. near Dublin 5s. or 6s. Most of the people drink tea, and consume plenty of whisky and tobacco. Leases 41 or 61 years; many on lives, and also renewable for ever.

RENT of cottages 26s. to 30s. with a potatoe garden. No emigrations. The religion in general catholic. Labour through the year 10d. a day, about Dublin 1s. A ditch of 6 feet wide 5 feet deep perpendicular, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ at bottom earth all on one side 2s. 6d. a perch. Threshing and cleaning wheat 9d. per barrel; barley 6d $\frac{1}{2}$. Oats 4d $\frac{1}{2}$.

PROVISIONS.

BREAD 10 lb. of 14 oz. for 12d.

Bacon 6d.

Butter-milk 1d $\frac{1}{2}$. a quart.

New milk 2d. a quart. Potatoes 1s. 6d. per cwt.

Candles 5d $\frac{1}{2}$. per lb. Soap 6d. Firing all stolen.

BUILDING.

IRISH slate 15s. per 1000. English 20s.

Oak timber rather fallen in price in 10 years.

Elm 1s. 4d. Beech 1s. Soft wood 8d. Firs at 60 years growth, 1 ton to $1\frac{1}{2}$ of timber, and worth 2l. 2s. Walling 1s. a perch, for labour of 7 feet high and 18 inch thick. Building a cottage 3l. ditto a farm-house, and all offices for 80 acres, 20l.

LEAVING Luttrell's town, I went to St. Wolfstons, which Lord Harcourt had been so obliging as to desire I would make my quarters, from whence to view to the right or left.

JUNE 25th, to Mr. Clements, at Killadoon, who has lately built an excellent house, and planted much about it, with the satisfaction of finding that all his trees thrive well; I remarked the beech and larch seemed to get beyond the rest. He is also a good farmer. Cabbages he has repeatedly tried, and used them generally for fattening sheep, and finds them much better for the purpose than turneps.

POTATOES he cultivates largely, not only for family use, but also for fattening swine; boils them, and they fat exceedingly well, without any mixture of meal, both porkers and for bacon, giving them oats for three weeks at last.

HE has been very attentive to bring his farm into neat order respecting fences, throwing down and levelling old banks, making new ditches, double ones six feet wide and five deep, with a large bank between for planting, more effectually than ever I saw in England: also in hollow drains his wet lands.

REMARKING in one of his fields under oats one part, about an acre incomparably beyond the rest of the field, I enquired into the cause of it, and found it sown with an English oat, no other difference in the circumstances.

HIS system of sheep is to buy ewes, in september, at 14s. 6d. and to fatten both lamb and ewe, selling the first at 9s. and the latter at 18s. The wool is 4s. They lamb the beginning of march. Observing the legs being long, his man assured me that the longer the legs, the better the sheep sold in Smithfield. A ridiculous prepossession! not peculiar to Ireland; Wiltshire has it.

JUNE 26th, breakfasted with Colonel Marlay, at Cellbridge, found he had practised husbandry with much success, and given great attention to it from the peace of 1763, which put a period

to

to a gallant scene of service in Germany; walked through his grounds, which I found in general very well cultivated; his fences excellent, his ditches 5 by 6, and 7 by 6; the banks well made, and planted with quicks; the borders dug away covered with lime, till perfectly flacked, then mixed with dung, and carried into the fields: a practice which Mr. Marlay has found of very great benefit. He has cultivated the large Scotch cabbage for two or three years, which came to 16 or 17 lb. on an average, applied them to fattening oxen that had been fed on grass; began to give them in november; has had $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres: they fattened the beasts very well, full as well as turneps, but did not think they answered the expence, as they require in order to have them of a great size an immense quantity of dung.

T U R N E P S.

HE has sown every year since 1763, always had from 4 to 17 acres, has usually drilled them in rows, the distances various; but those which answered best, were double rows at 12 inches, with intervals of three feet, horse hoed, hand hoed, and weeded them. Prepared for them by lime and dung; the crops fine, up to 21 lb. a turnep, but on an average about 8 lb. Generally fed beasts with them that had had the summer's grass, but with both gave some hay, and were very fat in four months. Continued them in the same ground for six or seven years together, manuring for them every second year. It is rather to be regretted that he did not every year change the land.

P O T A T O E S.

PLANTS them with the plough, drawing furrows five feet asunder, filled with dung, the sets on the dung, and then covered with the plough, and horse-hoed them backwards and forwards, the crop 28 barrels per acre of very large ones.

C L O V E R.

Mr. Marlay has introduced this plant so generally, that he sows no corn without it. The profit exceedingly great, more than that of any other improvement.

L I M E.

USED much, mixed with earth, and found great success from it, even on lime-stone land. Burns at 7d. a barrel; always leaves it on the ditch-earth to slack, and then mixes it before dung is put to it.

D R A I N I N G.

HAS drained much in the hollow way, filling with stones, and found the benefit exceedingly great, can cart on the wettest lands at any time, two years have paid the expence.

P L O U G H I N G.

INSTEAD of the common draught of the country, he uses often only two oxen in a plough, for he has many sorts of ploughs from Mr. Baker and from England.

C o w s.

FROM three Kerry cows, from the middle of may to the middle of september, he had 24lb. of butter a week.

THE Colonel favoured me with the following particulars of the common husbandry about Cellbridge. Farms generally 100 acres; the medium of the county from 20l. to 100l. Soil various; stoney loams, gravels and clays, and on lime-stone quarries. Rents about 1l. 10s. on an average. Their course,

1. Fallow.

2. Wheat, sow a barrel and get 7.

3. Oats,

3. Oats, sow two barrels and get 14.

4. Oats.

A little barley is cultivated.

THEY plough three or four times for wheat. Turneps were sown in fields 30 years ago, but left off on account of the poor stealing them. Great quantities of potatoes planted in the trenching way, the expence 3 l. in labour only to put in if done by hire, and 40 s. if for themselves. The cottagers pay the farmers 8 l. an acre for the land ready dunged, and they require three car loads to every square perch.—This great manuring swallows up not only all the dung of the farm, but nine tenths of that of the kingdom. They begin to plant in march, and continue it to the end of may, most of them weed, the crop upon an average about 100 barrels, at 5 s. each. They are obliged to clear the land by the first of november, when the farmer ploughs and sows wheat and gets fine crops. The apple potatoe is liked best, because they last till the new ones come in.

IN respect to manuring they use but little lime, but depend principally on lime-stone gravel, 300 car loads to an acre; if taken out of the ditch as on the spot, it costs about 18 or 19 s. an acre. It will last about five or six years good.

As to laying lands to grafs the tenants do it very often; but their only way is to let it cover itself with such vegetables as may come, and upon some land it forms very good grafs.

BUT few cows kept. They apply their grafs chiefly to fattening cows; there is some good meadow on the river, and in grazing, two acres will fatten three cows, besides some sheep and winter food. Flocks rise to 3 or 400—buy in wethers half fat, which turn into after-grafs till christmas, then to hay, and sell in february and march; buy at 18 to 20, sell at 30 to 35. They plough with both horses and oxen, the draft four oxen or

two

two oxen and two horses. To a farm of 117 acres, ten horses and two oxen.

THEY plough five inches deep, and do one half, or three fourths of an acre a day. Lay their lands in three feet ridges—No cutting straw into chaff. The draft oxen have hay when worked. Hire of a boy, a horse and car, 1 s. 6 d. a day; two cars and one man 1 s. 6 d. In hiring and stocking farms—for 50 acres

	£.	s.	d.
4 Horses, at 3 l. 3 s	-	-	-
3 Cows, at 3 l. 3 s.	-	-	-
2 Young cattle, at 16 s.	-	-	-
2 Pigs 5 s.	-	-	-
2 Cars 40 s.	-	-	-
1 Plough.	-	-	-
Harrows	-	-	-
No harness			
Sundries	-	-	-
Furniture	-	-	-
Housekeeping 1 s. 4 d. a day for half a year			
Harvest, labouring, &c.			
Seed, 10 acres, 10 barrels wheat	£.	10	0 0
10 Acres oats, 20 ditto		6	0 0
5 Ditto bere, 5 ditto	-	3	0 0
	£.	71	14 0

P R O D U C E.

3 Cows 5 lb. butter a week, from 1st may to end of september 100 lb. at 8d.	-	3	6	8
2 Pigs	-	1	4	0
50 Barrels of wheat	-	50	0	0
10 Acres wheat straw	-	10	0	0
10——oats, 100 barrels	-	30	0	0
5——bere, 13 ditto	-	48	15	0
	£.	143	5	8

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EXPENCES.

Labour	_____	£. 10	
Rent and cefs	_____	80	90 0 0

A FARMER that has a plough, a harrow three cars, four horfes and fix cows with 50 l. in his pocket, will take a farm of 100 acres. Tythes for wheat 7 s. for oats and bere 3 s. for mowing ground 5 s. Land fells at 22 years purchafe, has fallen fince 1772 one or two years. County cefs paid by tenant for roads 1 s. an acre. Leafes ufual three lives or 31 years, fome renewable for ever. People rather increafed. Rent of a cabbin and half an acre of land, 40 s. All catholics. Building a new cottage 10 l. which with one half an acre lets at 40 s. for a farm of 50 acres, 40 to 50 l. Building a wall 10 feet high, 18 inches thick, and 21 foot long, 34 s. with mortar dafhed 8 s. lefs, flating a guinea a fquare.

WALKED through Lauglinftown, the farm of the late Mr. John Whyn, baker, to whom the Dublin fociety, with a liberality that does them great honour, gave for feveral years 300 l. annually in order to make experiments.

I HAD had the pleafure of correfponding with him feveral years, and melancholy it was to fee the land of a man of fo much ingenuity no longer his, and more fo, to hear with all his exertions he was not able to anfwer the expectations raifed of him. I found what I had fufpected from reading his experiments, that he wanted capital; without a fufficient one it is impoffible to farm well:—A man may have all the abilities in the world, write like a genius, talk like an angel, and realy underftand the bufinefs in all its depths, but unlefs he has a proper capital, his farm will never be fit for exhibition;—and then, to condemn him for not being a good farmer in practice as well as theory, is juft like abufing the inhabitants of the irifh cabbins for not becoming excellent

cellent managers. No idea could be more useful, than that of encouraging such a man as Mr. Baker, but a capital should have been furnished him for bringing his farm into order, and when it was so, he should have been directed not to try any experiments; because those trials were for the acquisition of knowledge in disputable points, and the society wanted no such disquisitions, but the exhibition of a farm, cultivated in a manner which experience has rendered indisputable in England or elsewhere.

VIEWED Lucan, the seat of Agmondisham Vesey, Esq; on the banks of the Liffy; the house is rebuilding, but the wood on the river, with walks through it, is exceedingly beautiful. The character of the place is that of a sequestered shade. Distant views are every where shut out, and the objects all correspond perfectly with the impression they were designed to raise: it is a walk on the banks of the river, chiefly under a variety of fine wood, which rises on varied slopes, in some parts gentle, in others steep; spreading here and there into cool meadows, on the opposite shore, rich banks of wood or shrubby ground. The walk is perfectly sequestered, and has that melancholy gloom which should ever dwell in such a place. The river is of a character perfectly suited to the rest of the scenery, in some places breaking over rocks; in others silent, under the thick shade of spreading wood. Leaving Lucan, the next place is Leixlip, a fine one, on the river, with a fall, which, in a wet season, is considerable. Then St. Wolfstons, belonging to the dean of Derry, a beautiful villa, which is also on the river; the grounds gay and open, though not without the advantage of much wood, disposed with judgment. A winding shrubbery quits the river, and is made to lead through some dressed ground that is pretty and chearful.

MR.

MR. CONOLLY'S, at Castle-town, to which all travellers resort, is the finest house in Ireland, and not exceeded by many in England; it is a large handsome edifice, situated in the middle of an extensive lawn, which is quite surrounded with fine plantations disposed to the best advantage: to the north, these unite into very large woods, through which many winding walks lead, with the convenience of several ornamented seats, rooms, &c. On the other side of the house, upon the river, is a cottage, with a shrubbery, prettily laid out; the house commands an extensive view, bounded by the Wicklow mountains. It consists of several noble apartments. On the first floor is a beautiful gallery, 80 feet long, elegantly fitted up.

JUNE 27th, left Lord Harcourt's, and having received an invitation from the Duke of Leinster, passed through Mr. Conolly's grounds to his Grace's seat at Cartown, the park ranks among the finest in Ireland. It is a vast lawn, which waves over gentle hills, surrounded by plantations of great extent, and which break and divide in places, so as to give much variety. A large but gentle vale winds through the whole, in the bottom of which a small stream has been enlarged into a fine river, which throws a cheerfulness through most of the scenes: over it a handsome stone-bridge. There is a great variety on the banks of this vale; part of it consists of mild and gentle slopes, part steep banks of thick wood; in another place they are formed into a large shrubbery, very elegantly laid out, and dressed in the highest order, with a cottage, the scenery about which is uncommonly pleasing: and farther on, this vale takes a stronger character, having a rocky bank on one side, and steep slopes scattered irregularly, with wood on the other. On one of the most rising grounds in the park is a tower, from the top of which the whole scenery is beheld; the park spreads on every side in fine sheets of lawn, kept in the highest order

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by 1100 sheep, scattered over with rich plantations, and bounded by a large margin of wood, through which is a riding.

FROM this building his Grace has another sort of view, not every where to be met with ; he looks over a great part of 60,000 acres, which lie around him nearly contiguous ; and Ireland is obliged to him for spending the revenue on the spot that produces it. At a small distance from the park is a new town, Manooth, which the duke has built ; it is regularly laid out, and consists of good houses. His Grace gives encouragement to settling in it, consequently it increases, and he meditates several improvements.

REACHED Kilcock.

JUNE 28th, breakfasted with Mr. Jones of Dollestown, who was so obliging as to answer my enquiries concerning the husbandry of his neighbourhood. He informed me, that the town of Kilcock contained six great distilleries for making whisky, and that all the wash and grains were used in fattening either hogs or beasts, generally the latter. About november they put them to it, and though quite lean, they will be completely fat by easter : those who are more attentive than common, give them also some bran or hay. Mr. Foster of Branchale, at some distance from the town, has a more complete distillery, and fats more beasts than any other person.

FARMS here rise from 20 to 100 acres, at 21s. an acre, except about the town, where they are higher : but they have fallen 5s. an acre in five or six years.

THE course most common is,

1. POTATOES, which yield 60 barrels an acre.

2. Bere

2. Bere sown in november, $\frac{1}{4}$ of a barrel per acre, the crop 13 or 14.
3. Oats, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to two barrels sown, the produce 13.
4. Oats.
5. Summer fallow.
6. Wheat, sow $\frac{1}{4}$, get 7.
7. Oats.
8. Oats.

THEY plant some potatoes on lays without dung ; but for this the land must be very good, or the lay old : it is not esteemed so good a way as on stubble. The cottars give 5l. 5s. to 6l. an acre dunged for planting potatoes, and their expences are as follow ;

RENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 5	15	0
Digging and putting in	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	0
10 barrels of seed, at 5s. per barrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	0
Planting and spreading the dung	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Digging and gathering	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	0
							<hr/>		
							£. 15	15	0
							<hr/>		

THE cutting the fetts and weeding done in broken days.

SIXTY barrels at 5s.—15 l. Consequently the prime cost to them is 5s. a barrel, or 1s. 3d. a bushel, english, which is an evident proof that this is the worst mode of planting in the world. They have not done taking them up till christmas.

LIMESTONE gravel is the general manure of the country ; it is found at two feet depth, and the worse the ground is the better the gravel does upon it. They use it only for ploughed land.

A good dressing of it costs 50s. an acre, and it lasts seven years. But few cattle or sheep kept, for tillage has increased within twenty years very much, owing to the culture of potatoes, not to the bounty on the inland carriage of corn.

THEY plough entirely with horses, use four in a plough, and do three-fourths of an acre a day. In laying their wheat and bere lands, they are very attentive to do it well; if the soil is dry on broad lands, if wet, on narrow; and after it is sown and harrowed, they go once with the plough in every furrow, and shovel out all the loose moulds: a practice which cannot be praised too much. They are so far from cutting straw into chaff, that they throw away that of their crops. They are, upon the whole, in much better circumstances than formerly, have fewer holidays, and more industry. Tythes are compounded. Meadow 3s. Wheat 5s. Bere 5s. Oats 3s. Leases are from 21 to 31 years. Rent of a cabin and small garden 40s. Building one 5l. A farm-house, and offices for 50 acres, 40l. I remarked, all the way I came, great quantities of poultry in the cabins and farms.

MR. JONES, in an attentive practice of agriculture, has tried some experiments of consequence. Potatoes he has cultivated for cattle; and had, at one time, twelve store bullocks keeping upon them—they liked them much, and eat three barrels a day. They weighed 5 cwt. each; and had they been kept long enough on the potatoes, would have been fattened. For his horses, he boils the potatoes, gives them, mixed with bran, and finds that they do very well on them, without oats.

MR. ARMSTRONG, of King's-county, had 80 sheep in the snow last winter, which got to his potatoes, and eat them freely, upon which he picked 40 of them, and put them to that food regularly;

larly ; they fattened very quick, much sooner than 40 others at hay, and yielded him a great price at Smithfield.

MR. JONES has improved some poor rough land that produced nothing, first by hollow draining thoroughly, and then manuring it with limestone gravel, which brought up a great crop of white and red clover, and trefoile. He also spreads this manure on lays he intends breaking up ; and observes that the use of it is very great, for, when dug out of ditches, you gain at once manure, drains and fences. He has seen some of it dropt on a bog in carting, and where-ever it falls, is sure to bring up the white clover.

FROM hence took the road to Summerhill, the seat of the Right Hon. H. L. Rowley, the country is chearful and rich ; and if the irish cabbins continue like what I have hitherto seen, I shall not hesitate to pronounce their inhabitants as well off as most english cottagers. They are built of mud walls 18 inches or 2 feet thick, and well thatched, which are far warmer than the thin clay walls in England. Here are few cottars without a cow, and some of them two. A belly full invariably of potatoes, and generally turf for fuel from a bog. It is true they have not always chimneys to their cabbins, the door serving for that and window too : if their eyes are not affected with the smoke, it may be an advantage in warmth. Every cottage swarms with poultry, and most of them have pigs. It is to the polite attention of Mr. Rowley, I owe the following information. About Summerhill the soil is mostly strong stony land, on clay, but naturally fertile. He lets it at about 20s. an acre, which is the average rent of the whole county of Meath to the occupier ; but if the tenures of middle men are included, it is not above 14s. This intermediate tenant, between landlord and occupier, is very common here. The farmers are very much improved in their circumstances since about the year 1752. At a rack-rent, the land
sells

falls at 21 years purchase; but according to circumstances, to 26 and 27. Whenever a number of years purchase of land is mentioned in Ireland, it implies a neat rent, without any deductions whatever. A course of crops very common here is from the lay.

1. Wheat, the crop 6 barrels.
2. Wheat.
3. Oats, the crop 10 barrels.
4. Oats.
5. Clover.
6. Clover.

Potatoes are much planted, the best land yields 100 to 120 barrels per acre, but a middling produce 80, at 32 stone the barrel. The poor pay 6l. or 6l. 6s. an acre rent for grafs land to plant, and 3l. or 4l. for a second crop. They are every where used for feeding hogs and poultry. Mr. Rowley has fattened worked oxen of five years old in eight weeks on them parboiled, with hay besides. Much marle is used here on the lighter lands, but for the heavy soils lime-stone gravel is preferred. In hiring farms, the lower tenants will take them of 50 acres, if they have a few cows and horses, without a shilling in their pockets. Mr. Rowley keeps a very considerable domain in his hands; adjoining to it is a black turf bog of admirable use for firing. I viewed it attentively, and am clear, that all such bogs as this with a fall from them for draining, might very easily be improved into excellent meadow. The surface is covered with heath about a foot high, and under that eight or nine feet deep of puffy stuff, which when burnt yields no ashes; then the bog turf ten feet deep cuts like butter, and under that a marley lime-stone gravel. They have found at 14 feet deep evident marks of the plough in the soil at bottom, also remains of cabbins, cribs for cattle, mooses horns, oaks, yews, and fir, being good red deal. In working for fuel, they dig out the black bog and throw the upper stratum in its place, through which open drains being kept, the
turfs,

turfs, as they are dug are spread on it for drying. In many spots I remarked the vernal grafs (*anthoxanthum odoratum*), the holcus (*lanatus*), narrow leaved plantain (*plantagolanceolata*), docks (*rumex*), white and red clover ; and on the banks of the master drains a full crop of fern (*pteris aquilina*). Upon cutting small surface drains on the bog the heath (*erica*) doubles its growth. The expence of cutting drains in the bog six feet wide at top, six deep, and one wide at bottom, is 8d. or 9d. a perch of 21 foot. The plantations and ornamented grounds at Summerhill are extensive, and form a very fine environ, spreading over the hills, and having a noble appearance from the high lands above the bog. The house is large and handsome, with an elegant hall, a cube of 30 feet, and many very good and convenient apartments.

WENT in the evening to Lord Mornington's at Dangan, who is making many improvements which he shewed me ; his plantations are extensive, and he has formed a large water, having five or six islands much varied, and promontories of high land shoot so far into it as to form almost distant lakes, the effect pleasing. There are above 100 acres under water, and his Lordship has planned a considerable addition to it. Returned to Summerhill.

JUNE 29th, left it, taking the road to Slaine, the country very pleasant all the way ; much of it on the banks of the Boyne, variegated with some woods, planted hedge-rows, and gentle hills: the cabbins continue much the same, the same plenty of poultry, pigs, and cows. The cattle in the road have their fore legs all tied together with straw to keep them from breaking into the fields ; even sheep, and pigs, and goats are all in the same bondage. I had the pleasure of meeting Colonel Burton at the castle, in whom I was so fortunate as to find, on repeated occasions, the utmost assiduity to procure me every species of information, entering into the spirit of my design with the most liberal ideas. His partner in Slaine Mills, Mr. Jebb, gave me
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the following particulars of the common husbandry, which, upon reading over to several intelligent farmers, they found very little occasion to correct. Farms rise from 100 to 300 acres, the soil, a stoney loam upon a rock, and lets on an average at 25 s. and the whole county throughout the same. The courses of crops,

1. Fallow with lime, 120 barrels an acre, at 7d. besides carriage.

2. Wheat, sow a barrel, and get 6 to 7, sometimes 11.

3. Barley or oats, if barley, sow $1\frac{1}{4}$. and get 13.

4. Oats, sow two barrels, the crop 16. Also,

1. Fallow, 2. wheat, 3. barley, 4. oats, 5. clover, for Two Years 6. barley.

Another, 1. fallow, 2. wheat, 3. spring corn, 4. spring corn, 5. fallow, 6. wheat, 7. barley, and red or white clover or trefoile and hay feeds. Another, 1. fallow, 2. wheat, 3. clover, 2 years, 4. barley, 5. oats. A common practice is, for the farmers to hire any kind of rough waste land, at three guineas, or three pound an acre for three crops, engaging to lime it if the lime is found them; 120 barrels per acre, which comes to 3 l. 10 s. from 9 l. 9 s. leaves fix for three years. They cultivate it in the common course of 1. fallow, 2. wheat, 3. barley, and 4. oats. Turneps not generally come in, but farmer Macguire has 20 acres to 40 every year, but does not hoe them, he feeds sheep on the land and then sows barley and clover. Clover would be more general, was it not for the expence of picking the stones for mowing, which costs 10s. or 12s. an acre. Sometimes mow it once, and feed afterwards; the crops exceedingly great. A few tares sown for the horses. On the banks of the Nanny water, many white pease sown, instead of a fallow, and good crops, wheat sown after them. They also sow beans about Kilbrue. Every farmer has a little flax, from a rood to an acre, and all the cottages a spot, if they have any land, they go through the whole process themselves, and spin and weave it. From hence to Drogheda, there is a considerable manufacture of course cloth, which is exported

ported to Liverpool, about 1s. a yard. At Navan there is a fabrick of facking for home consumption; the weavers earn 1s. a day at these works.

POTATOES are a great article of culture; the cottagers take land of the farmers, giving them 4l. 10s. an acre, dunged. All in the trenching way, the ridge six feet, the furrow two an d a half; always weed them, the best season for planting the middle of april. The crop 64 barrels on an average, and the price 3 s. 6d. a barrel. They have got much into the apple potatoe.

	£.	s.	d.
Rent - - - - -	4	11	0
Spreading dung - - - - -	0	2	0
Seven barrels of feed 3 s. 6 d. - - - - -	1	4	6
Cutting and laying - - - - -	0	6	6
Trenching and earthing up - - - - -	4	0	0
Taking up picking 1 d $\frac{1}{2}$. a barrel, 64	0	8	0
	<hr/>		
	10	12	0
	<hr/>		

From whence it appears, that the prime cost of the potatoes is 4s. a barrel. Wheat is sown after them, and sometimes barley; the wheat is generally a bad crop and bad grain, but the barley good. For fat hogs they boil them, and at last mix some bran or oats; a hog of 2 cwt. will fatten in two months, on six barrels and one barrel of oats. Much poultry is also reared and fed in all the cabbins by means of potatoes.

WASTE lands have been brought in and cultivated at Grange Geath, the soil stony and over-run with heath (*erica vulgaris*) and whins, (*ulex europæus*) let before the improvement at 4s.

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but lets now at 20 s. They ploughed up the surface and spontaneous growth, summer fallowed and lined at 150 barrels an acre, sowed wheat, and pursued the course above mentioned, the crops of oats exceedingly great, 20 barrels an acre; of this land there were 2500 acres. The great manure of the country is lime, which is always laid on fallow; they find the advantage of it so clearly as to be seen in the effect to an inch: but when land is got much out of heart, then the lime will not do; and they lay it down to clover for several years till there is something of a turf, after which it will answer well. Hollow draining is generally used, even by the common farmers, who have found by experience that their lime will do no good till the land is drained. The fences about new inclosed pieces, and those made in general by gentlemen, are ditches six feet deep, seven feet wide, and 14 inches at bottom, with two rows of quick in the bank, furz sown on the top, or a dead hedge of brush. Good grass land for meadow lets for 3 or 4 l. an acre; mow it all and get three ton of hay an acre or fifteen irish load. Many dairies of cows, up to 50 and 60, kept here for butter. Mr. Kelly, near the obelisk, Drogheda, has 200 cows let at 5 l. The breed is half english and half irish, worth 5 to 7 l. each; the farmers let theirs to dairy-men, who are common labourers, at 4 l. a piece, but if they won't give five to seven quarts at a meal they may be rejected; a good one will give ten quarts of milk per meal; the produce about 5 l. consequently there is 20 s. a head profit. As butter-milk is all the food of the people, the number of swine kept is very small: it is carried to Drogheda, and sold at six quarts a penny. The cows are fed in winter on hay alone; all are kept abroad in the day, but housed at night. They rear almost all the calves, weaning them at six weeks or two months old: at a fortnight they sell at 3 or 4 s. Some, but not dairy-men, give them in rearing hay-tea. They fatten many cows, having much grass; an acre to a cow. Swine fatten from one to two cwt. Many are kept upon potatoes alone, and fattened intirely upon that root, which is thought to be a very profitable

profitable use; the potatoe fed pork much firmer than that on pollard. There is a great demand this year, many ship loads alive being bought up for England; and the price good, encourages the breed incredibly. Many sheep are kept, bought in every year in autumn, mostly ewes, but some wethers, at 12 to 15s. Sell the lambs fat in may or june at 10s. cut four or five pound of wool, worth 5s. and fat the ewe to 19 or 20s. profit 1l. 1s. a head. Buy wethers at 20 to 25s. sell at 30 to 42s. with a fleece of seven pound; in winter they have hay, and some sheaf oats. No rot here. Plough all with horses, six to a plough, and do an acre a day, working often from six in the morning to eight at night, and stirring eight or nine inches deep. They keep 10 or 12 horses to 100 acres in tillage, and breed them all themselves. The price of ploughing 8s. an acre. The whole preparation of a fallow worth 25s. an acre; and for barley 12s. The form of lands narrow ridges-three or four feet wide; the year's expence to a farmer 5 l. each horse; very seldom give them any oats. They cut no straw into chaff; and as all their corn is winnowed in the road, the chaff of it is lost. They never break their stubbles till about christmas; the plough generally used, is an imperfect swing one. In hiring and stocking farms, they will take 100 acres or more with scarce any money; but then they must have to the value of

		£.	s.	d.
8 Horses at 5l.		40	0	0
4 Cows 5l.		20	0	0
2 Sows 10s.		1	0	0
6 Cars 3l.		18	0	0
2 Ploughs 12s.		1	4	0
2 Harrows		1	13	0
No rollers used				
		<hr/>		
		81	17	0

		Brought over	£. 81 17 0
Harnes	10 s. a horse	- -	3 0 0
Sundries	- -	-	10 0 0
Houſhold furniture	-	.	5 0 0
1 Sack of oat-meal	-	-	1 0 0

Labour ſupplied by letting land to others for potatoes ; no feed, as he pays the preceding tenant the eighth ſheaf of the winter corn, and the fourth of the ſpring, in lieu of the feed and fowing.

100 17 0

A very intelligent labourer, ſent for by Mr. Burton, gave me the following account for 40 acres, 10 of them graſs

	£.	s.	d.
4 Horſes	18	4	0
4 Cows	20	0	0
10 Sheep	7	0	0
1 Sow	0	15	0
1 Plough and harnes	2	5	6
2 Harrows	1	2	9
10 Sacks	1	0	0
Winnowing ſheet	0	10	0
Furniture	10	0	0
15 Acres oats feed, two barrels and a half an acre,	18	10	0
6 Acres barley one and a half, 9 barrels 12 s.	5	8	0
Labourers	20	16	0
2 Boys and a maid ſervant	3	8	3
Proviſion 8 cwt. of oatmeal	3	4	0
4 Barrels meſlin at 16d.	3	4	0
Wear and tear	2	5	6
4 Cars	9	2	0
Poultry	0	13	3
	127	8	3
	With		

With this expenditure they fare no better than common labourers, and do not improve in their circumstances. Land sells at rack rent 22 and 23 years purchase, as well now as in 1768; the bankruptcies in 1772 did not affect the purchase of land. County cess 8d. to 1s. an acre; tythes for wheat 7s. barley 5s. oats 3 to 4s. mowing ground 3s. 6d. nothing for land fed, and no small tythes; no tea drank among the cottagers. Leases in general 31 years to catholics; to protestants three lives or 31 years. Rent of cabins 40s. with a potatoe garden; if a cow is kept 40s. more. No emigrations. The catholic religion general among the lower classes.

LABOUR.

Ditching 6 feet by 5, 20d. a perch

4 by 5, 1s. 2d.

6 by 7, 2s. 6d.

Threshing wheat 1s. a barrel

Barley 8d.

Oats 5d.

No servants hired at all.

Women a day in harvest 8d.

Rise in the price of labour in ten years, from 5d. and 7d. to 8d. and 10d. but they work harder and better.

PROVISIONS.

Bacon 5d. bread 1d. potatoes 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a stone, new milk 1d. a quart, ducks 3d. candles 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. soap 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. firing of the poor furz and coals to a trifling amount. The farmers burn their straw, *for which they deserve to be hanged.*

BUILDING

BUILDING.

Slate 12s per 1000

Elm 2l. 10s. to 3l. a ton.

Fir 3l.

Dry walls dashed 2s.

Building a cabin 5l.

Ditto a farm house and offices for 100 acres 50l.

Hire of four cars, one man and a boy 4s. a day; 23 miles from Dublin it takes the whole week to go twice. The price to go there 10s. a week, 4s. of it expences on the road. The load fix cwt. each car. But Mr. Jebb has sent 18 cwt. to Dublin with one horse, and not an extraordinary one, 15 or 16 cwt. often.

IN the improvements making about the castle, it was necessary to move a large hill of lime stone, and as the readiest way, Colonel Burton is burning it to lime. The kiln, like most I have seen in Ireland, is a very good one. It is in the shape of an egg, 19 feet deep, and 9 diameter in the swell; when new it burnt 400 barrels in a week, each three bushels; but as the lining is worn, it is now from 350 to 400. A ton of culm, which costs at Drogheda 13s. and 2s. freight from thence, burns 50 barrels of lime. Quarrying and burning the stone is 1½d. a barrel, expences in all 5½d. and it sells at the kiln for 7d. The stone is laid in in layers eight or nine inches thick, and is always kept supplying at top and emptying at bottom. The kiln cost 35l. building, and it employs three hands.

LORD Conyngham's seat, Slaine Castle, on the Boyne, is one of the most beautiful places I have seen; the grounds are very bold and various, rising around the castle in noble hills or beautiful inequalities of surface, with an outline of flourishing plantations.

tations. Under the castle flows the Boyne, in a reach broken by islands, with a very fine shore of rock on one side, and wood on the other. Through the lower plantations are ridings, which look upon several beautiful scenes, formed by the river, and take in the distant country, exhibiting the noblest views of waving Cultinall Hills, with the castle finely situated in the midst of the planted domain, through which the Boyne winds its beautiful course.

UNDER Mr. Lambert's house, on the same river, is a most romantic and beautiful spot; rocks on one side, rising in peculiar forms very boldly; the other steep wood, the river bending short between them like a land-locked basin.

LORD Conyngham's keeping up Slaine Castle, and spending great sums, though he rarely resides there, is an instance of magnificence not often met with; while it is so common for absentees to drain the kingdom of every shilling they can, so contrary a conduct ought to be held in the estimation which it justly deserves.

JUNE 30th, rode out to view the country and some improvements in the neighbourhood: the principal of which are those of lord chief baron Foster, which I saw from Glaston Hill, in the road from Slaine to Dundalk. Adjoining to it is an extensive improvement of Mr. Fortescue's; ten years ago the land was let at 3s. 6d. now it is a guinea, which great work was done by the tenants, and lime and fallow the means pursued. These and other improvements, with the general increase of prosperity, has had such an effect in employing the people, that Colonel Burton assured me, that 20 years ago, if he gave notice at the mass houses, that he wanted labourers, in two days he could have 2 or 300; now it is not so easy to get 20, from the quantity of regular employment

ployment being so much increased. I observed weavers looms in most of the cabins, went into one, and the man informed me that he could weave a web 65 or 66 yards long, and 26 inches wide, at 8d. a yard price, in a week. 34 to 36lb. of yarn makes it, which costs 15d. per lb. he and his journeyman could earn 7 or 8s. a week by it. He paid 4l. 4s. for the grazing of a cow, a rood of potatoe garden, and the cabin. They were burning straw, which I forgot to remark I have found very common where there is no turf: a most pernicious custom, it is in fact what I have often heard literally reported, that they burn their dunghills in Ireland.

PASSED through several farms much improved, and found great attention given to fences, the ditches very large, and the banks well planted.

LORD Boyne's estate appears to be very rich, and the tenants beyond the common run.

THE country is well wooded, and has an appearance of some of the best parts of England.

WALKED into Mr. Maurice's fields; he is a considerable farmer, buys his fattening cows in May from 3l. to 6l. 6s. sells fat from August to Christmas, with 30s. profit: he has laid down a meadow to graze with so much care that the expence was 10l. an acre. In one of his fields he sowed red clover, with the third crop of corn, it failed, but an amazing sheet of white clover came, which I saw, and was indeed surprised at such a proof of the excellency of the soil, even under such exceeding bad management; but not a human being that I have met with has any notion of sowing clover with the first crop.

RETURNING

RETURNING to Slaine, dined with Mr. Jebb, and viewed the mill, which is a very large edifice, excellently built; it was begun in 1763, and finished in 1766. The water from the Boyne is conducted to it by a wear of 650 feet long, 24 feet base, and 8 feet high, of solid masonry: the water let into it by very complete flood gates.

THE canal is 800 feet long, all faced with stone, and 64 feet wide; on one side is a wharf completely formed and walled against the river, whereon are offices of several kinds, and a dry dock for building lighters. The mill is 138 feet long, the breadth 54, and the height to the cornice 42, being a very large and handsome edifice, such as no mill I have seen in England can be compared with. The corn upon being unloaded, is hoisted through doors in the floors to the upper story of the building, by a very simple contrivance, being worked by the water-wheel, and discharged into spacious granaries which hold 5000 barrels. From thence it is conveyed, during seven months in the year, to the kiln for drying, the mill containing two, which will dry 80 barrels in 24 hours. From the kiln it is hoisted again to the upper story, from thence to a fanning machine for re-dressing, to get out dirt, foil, &c. And from thence, by a small sifting machine, into the hoppers, to be ground, and is again hoisted into the bolting mills, to be dressed into flour, different sorts of pollard and bran. In all which progress, the machinery is contrived to do the business with the least labour possible: it will grind with great ease 120 barrels, of 20 stone each, every day. Beginning in 1763, for a few years, about 13000 barrels *per ann.* were ground, of late years up to 17000 barrels. It may be observed, that this mill is very different from the english ones, they not being under the necessity of kiln drying or dressing. The expence, per barrel, of the drying in coals and labour is 3d. and the waste is 1-20th in the weight: but the contrivance reduces the

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expence

expende of dressing to a trifle. The whole charge of manufacturing the wheat into flour in mere labour, is 9d. a barrel, and the 3d. drying makes 1s. The barrel weighs 20 stone, 14lb. to the stone, of which

Flour	-	14	ft.	8	lb.	
Bran						} 4 ft.
Pollard						
Dirt, waste, grinding and dressing						} 1 ft. 6 lb. } on average of the year
-	-	-	-	-	-	
<hr/>						
20 ft.						
<hr/>						

The waste, in re-dressing the corn, (which is what the farmers ought to do) is about 3 lb. a barrel.

THE pollard Mr. Jebb tried, for six years, in giving to pigs. Bought in *stores* in september, at 7s. to 20s. each, and put them to pollard given wet, about the thickness of gruel; it could have been sold for 2s. a barrel of 6 stone, and in feeding, it did not produce more than 10d. a barrel; pork from 18s. to 20s. per cwt. Thinks it would not more than pay the 2s. a barrel if pork was 40s. per cwt. Tried also breeding sows, bought berkshire sows fed upon the pollard, but it did not answer better than the other method. The pork fed upon it was soft, and not near so good as potatoe fed. Mr. Jebb thinks, however, that if he had had plenty of straw litter, as the stone-yard foundered them and clover for the summer food, that it would have paid the 2s. a barrel, but not more, the dung being then the profit. The sows did exceedingly well, and the pigs also in rearing.

THE corn is brought to the mill from all the country round to the distance of 10 miles. The farmers send it in, and leave the price

price to be fixed. The raising the mill and offices, complete, cost 20,000*l.* and has established, in a fine corn country, a constant market; and has preserved the tillage of the neighbourhood, which would have declined from the premium on distant carriage.

THE flour is sent to Dublin, and the manufacturing country to the north about Newry, &c.

IT employs constantly from 10 to 12 hands; the common ones, 6*s.* 6*d.* a week.

THEY sow much earlier, and the corn is drier of late years than at first.

THE carriage of all the flour that is not sent by the navigation is by one horse cars, which carry 6 cwt. of flour twice a week to Dublin.

THE parish of Monknewton, in the county of Meath, lying between Drogheda and Slaine, nearly midway, formerly belonging to the rich abbey of Melifont (whose beautiful gothic ruins are in the neighbourhood), consists of very fine corn land, and mostly belongs to John Baker Holroyd, Esq; of Sheffield place, in the county of Suffex: a gentleman, who having favoured me before with excellent intelligence in that country, took pleasure in repeating it on occasion of my irish tour.

TOWARDS Mattock bridge, the soil is a light rich loam, but the north western part is a strong fertile clay. The whole estate had been let out to two or three considerable people for 61 years, and they under-let in the usual style of the country. The leases expired in 1762, when Mr. H. visited the estate, and found it as

ill used as it possibly could be. However, great rents were offered. He declined the proposals of several considerable men, to take the whole to under-let at rack rents as before, knowing that the same wretched husbandry and poverty must continue, if he did, although it would secure his rents most effectually. He was very well satisfied with the rents offered by persons who would reside on the estate, (dividing with them the profits of the middle man), and voluntarily engaged to pay for the masonry and principal timber of farm houses, barns, stables, &c. He made large ditches, planting them with quick, round each farm. He allowed half the expence of inner fences. He provided an excellent lime-stone quarry in the neighbourhood, besides lime kilns on different farms. He built about the centre of the estate a very large double kiln, calculated to burn 1000 barrels per week. He allows 30s. for every acre on which 100 barrels of unslacked lime shall be laid, within a certain number of years, and on condition that the land hath a winter and summer fallow at the same time. In some instances he allows 40s. per acre, which is nearly the whole expence of liming; and in some instances, when 100l. is laid out on an house, he allows 50 or 60l. but as yet, no great advantage is taken of his encouragement to build. He endeavoured to prevent the scattered style of building; to have the barns, stables, &c. built round a farm yard, and that the house should have a story or floor above. Some objected, that a floor raised an house too high, and exposed it too much: the estate is rather low as to situation, and sheltered by hills on every side, but I understand some considerable houses are to be built next year. The common farmers, however, prefer living on the ground, surrounded by mud walls, have no idea of the cheerfulness of large windows, but let in barely light enough to do their business through apertures not much better than loop holes; neither has the encouragement to lime been taken advantage of in the degree it might be expected. Mr. H. is an hearty well-

well-wisher to Ireland, and ready to embrace any scheme of improvement for its advantage. He wished to make some return to the country for spending the income of the estate out of it. He was ready to allow almost the whole of every expence that could be laid out on the lands, knowing the poverty of the common irish residing tenantry, and their characters to be such, that they could not improve them as they should be; yet I understand they are not much better satisfied than other tenants: and the rent seems high. The farms were mostly let at a time when the spirit of taking land was greater than at present, but it is far from an high rent for land so circumstanced and situated, built and improved at the expence of the landlord. There is much in the neighbourhood, especially towards Drogheda, let at two guineas, and three pounds and upwards, per acre. He is a great friend to agriculture, has considered the subject much, and was very anxious to introduce something like the best english husbandry on his irish estate, but that is still at a great distance. He endeavoured to break through the barbarous custom of having the whole farm laid waste at the end of a lease, and every inch ploughed up, but could not carry his point further, than by giving great present advantages to the tenants, to induce them to agree, that the third part of the farms should not be ploughed the last four or five years of the lease. The soil is so good, that if used ever so ill in that time, it will recover, and there will be a very good sward. According to the common method of leasing lands in many parts of Ireland, the country is nearly waste and unprofitable, to the great prejudice of the public, during seven or eight years in every 31 years, the usual lease. For the tenant, not restrained by proper clauses, nor obliged to any particular management, or to manure, ploughs up every thing, and for some time before the expiration of his term, pursues the most ruinous system for the land, disposed even to lose some advantage himself,

self, rather than his successor should have any benefit; consequently, the three or four last years the crops hardly pay expences, and three or four years more are lost before it can be brought into any condition. Good and straight roads are made through and across the estate, and bridges built where necessary. Such a disposition in the landlord to improve, must do much for the country.

NOTWITHSTANDING the attention that has been paid to the estate, the young white thorn hedges, (of which a great quantity had been planted, and which grew most luxuriantly) serve as spring food for sheep and other cattle. The estate is now divided into farms, from 70 to 150 acres, and let in general for 31 years, at 40s. and 35s. per acre, some part at 30s. and a small part at 26s. The lands are tythe-free, and there are no taxes of any kind paid by the tenants, except assessments for making and repairing the roads of the barony, which some years have amounted to 10d. per acre, and is laid on by the grand jury at the assizes.

JULY 1st, left Slaine, taking the road towards Kells. Called at Gibbs town, where Mr. Gerrard has one of the most considerable farms in the country. He very kindly shewed me it, and explained the management. His bullocks he buys in october at 10l. each, and sells them in summer with 4l. profit: the cows in may, at 5l. 10s. and sells them before winter from 30s. to 40s. profit. He mows 100 acres of hay for the sheep and bullocks, and keeps good after-grass besides. The bullocks in winter have nothing but hay and grass, and are always in the fields, there being no such thing in this country as foddering yards for winter feeding. Two bullocks require three acres. The fields being generally large, a proportion of stock is thrown to each, which are left to fat; but if any do not seem
to

to thrive well, they are drawn from them and put into better food.

THE sheep Mr. Gerard buys in october, three year old wethers, at 25s. he begins to sell in april, and by august they are generally gone at about 35s. on an average. Fattening, in this manner, he thinks more advantageous than ewes and lambs. The winter sheep have hay in bad weather.

THE best cattle come from Galway, Mayo, and Roscommon. Mr. Gerard thinks the cross of the english breeds in Ireland has done good, except in the hides, which are much thinner from them. A good hide is worth 3l. or 4l. but in common from 30s. to 40s.

THE soil of this neighbourhood is, much of it, a dry stoney loam, which wants no draining; and whenever red clover is sown and left, the white comes in perfect sheets, but the bottoms are strong land, wet and bad. All the dry lands would do perfectly well for turneps; Mr. Gerard tried them, and got fine crops: but the poor stole them in car loads, which made him leave off the practice.

UNDER the boggy bottoms there is a very fine white marle, of a sort I have not seen in England; it is under four feet of black bog, and lies in a stratum, 14 feet thick, on blue gravel; it is always found under the black, not the red bog; it cuts with turf spades, quite like white butter, but in the air falls into a sandy powder to appearance: it is uncommonly light in the hand, and has a very great effervescence with acids, as I tried. Mr. G. has marled 109 acres, and found the benefit immense. Lays 2 or 300 barrels an acre, and always on tillage.

HE

HE has made many covered drains with stones, the effect of which is great; and he has his fields fenced in the most perfect manner by deep ditches, high banks, and well planted hedges.

ONE third of the county of Meath, he thinks, is let to subtenants; a farm of 1100 acres near him is so, and does not produce a tythe of what it ought to do. For stocking, &c. a grazing farm of 1000 acres, 2000l. does; 3000 l. would do it well.

Corn-acres are common here, which is to let the land for 3l. 15s. to 4l. an acre to the poor for three or four crops; who generally sow oats, but sometimes wheat.

REACHED Lord Bective's in the evening, through a very fine country, particularly that part of it from which is a prospect of his extensive woods. No person could with more readiness give me every sort of information than his lordship.

THE improvements at Headfort must be astonishing to those who knew the place seventeen years ago; for then there were neither building, walling, nor plantations: at present almost every thing is created necessary to form a considerable residence. The house and offices are intirely new built; it is a large plain stone edifice. The body of the house 145 feet long, and the wings each 180. The hall is $31\frac{1}{2}$ by 24, and 17 high. The saloon is of the same dimensions, on the left of which is a dining room, 48 by 24, and 24 high: on the right, a drawing room 24 square by 17 high, and, within that, Lady Bective's dressing room, 23 by 18. There are also, on this floor, a breakfast-room, 23 by 18, and a room for Lord B. of the same size. The first floor consists of six apartments, one $31\frac{1}{2}$ by 24, two 24 square; a fourth 23 by $19\frac{1}{2}$; a fifth 20 by 18; a sixth

sixth 23 by 19, all 15 high, besides two dressing rooms. From the thickness of the walls, I suppose it is the custom to build very substantially here. The grounds fall agreeably in front of the house, to a winding narrow vale, which is filled with wood, where also is a river, which Lord Bective intends to enlarge; and, on the other side, the lawn spreads over a large extent, and is every where bounded by very fine plantations. To the right, the town of Kells is picturesquely situated, among groups of trees, with a fine waving country and distant mountains; to the left, a rich tract of cultivation. The plantations are very numerous, more thriving I have no where seen; the larch, spruce, and beech, in particular, running beyond the rest, but the bark of all is clear, and there cannot be a better sign of a tree's health and vigour.

HIS Lordship transplants oaks 20 feet high without any danger, and they appear to thrive perfectly well, but he takes a large ball of earth up with the roots. He confirmed what had been mentioned to me before, that the way to make our own firs equal to foreign, was to cut them in June, and directly to lay them in water for three or four months. This was done by his father 35 years ago, and the buildings raised of them are now fully equal to those built of Norway fir.

BESIDES these numerous plantations, considerable mansion, and an incredible quantity of walling, his lordship has walled in 26 acres for a garden and nursery, and built six or seven very large pineries, 90 feet long each. He has built also a farm-yard 280 feet square, totally surrounded with offices of various kinds.

HIS Lordship's idea is not that of farming, but improving the lands about the house for beauty; for if let, they would be destroyed and ploughed, and also for preserving the plantations. Other lands he keeps only to bring them into order for re-letting.

F

He:

He applies his grafs besides horfes, to fattening cows, which he buys in in may, from 3*l.* 15*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* and in five or fix months fells them, with 35*s.* to 40*s.* profit. His mules are 16 or 17 hands high, and he finds them of incomparable ufe: they are in their prime at 20 years old, and good even at 35; he has had them 16 years, and in that time, with the work they have done, would have worn out three fets of horfes, besides being kept upon lefs food. Of hay he gets 17 or 18 load an acre of 4 cwt.

IN the breed of his cattle, Lord Beftive is very attentive: he fent into Craven for a prime bull, and got one, which coft him 36 guineas at a year old, and he is indeed a very fine beaft. This is the breed, which from much experience he prefers, as well for milking as for fattening. The Holdernefs he has tried, having a very fine bull, but is determined to have nothing more to do with them: the flefh is black and coarfe; and though they give more milk than the others, yet it will not make a quantity of butter proportioned. The common cow of the country is as good as any for mere milking.

ALL Lord Beftive's gates are iron, which coft him 5*l.* 5*s.* and as wooden ones come to 3*l.* 3*s.* he finds them the greateft improvement, faving the expence very foon. In his tillage he purfues the practice of the country, which is, 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats, but does not take the laft crop of oats. He limes 160 barrels an acre on his fallow, but the common quantity only 80, by means of which, and better husbandry, he has 10 barrels an acre of wheat, and 20 of oats; while the common crops are 7 of the one, and 12 of the other. Marle he has found an excellent manure for dry foils.

THE general rent of the neighbourhood 20*s.* Of the whole county 18*s.* 6*d.* Land fells at 21 years purchafe at rack rent.

THE

THE cottars plant great quantities of potatoes, giving for rent 4l. 10s. the crop from 70 to 100 barrels. This culture has increased 20 fold within 20 years. All the hogs in the country are fattened on them half boiled.

IN july, august, and september, they have great numbers of Connaught labourers; they are called *spalpeens*: *spal*, in irish, is a scythe, and *peen* a penny; that is, a mower for a penny a day, but that was 80 years ago.

LORD Bective's father was one of the greatest improvers I have heard of. He bought 10,000 acres of bog and rough land in the county of Cavan, much at the rent of only 20d. an acre: he drained and improved the bog, though a red one, divided it, and brought it to be such good land, that it is now 15s. an acre; part of it was dry rocky land, which he divided by walls.

JULY 3d, took my leave of Lord Bective, and went to Druestown, the seat of Barry Barry, Esq; but as I was not fortunate enough to find him at home, I could only observe in general, that he had a large lawn very well laid down to grass, and had made a very pretty lake with a shrubbery on the banks of it. About this neighbourhood all the good land is applied to grazing, and lets from 25 to 35s. an acre, the rest 20s. But towards Fore I passed by much that was greatly inferior, for when laid down, (that is left to itself) no white clover, or very little came, and it seemed quite unclosed; yet this I found was at 14 or 15s. I observed here that the cottars were not so well clothed as hitherto.

REACHED Packenham-hall, pleasantly situated, with much old wood about it, where Lord Longford received me with the most friendly attention, and gave me very valuable information. For the following particulars of the neighbouring husbandry I am

obliged to him. Farms rise from 20 to 100l. a year, in general 60 or 80l. but few larger. The soil heavy, loam eight or nine inches deep upon from 12 to 18 inches of yellow *till*, under which, limestone gravel 10 feet deep on rock, also dry sound gravel, lets from 15 to 20s. Average rent of the county of Westmeath, exclusive of waste, 9s. including it 7s. The courses of crops most common :

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Potatoes | 1. Potatoes |
| 2. Bere | 2. Flax |
| 3. Oats | 3. Oats |
| 4. Oats | 4. Oats |
| 5. Oats | 5. Oats |

and oats longer if the land will bear it, even till they do not get three barrels an acre, and then leave it to cover itself. Among the better farmers ;

1. Fallow manured with lime-stone gravel
2. Wheat or bere.
3. Oats
4. Oats.

THEY sow one barrel of wheat, and get seven per acre ; sow one and a half of bere, and get 15 or 16 ; of oats one and a half, the crop 10 or 11 at first, and decreases every year till nothing but weeds. The cottars all sow flax on bits of land, and dress and spin it, and it is woven in the country for their own use, besides felling some yarn. The little farmers keep no sheep.

THE chief improvements of wastes are the bottoms adjoining to the bogs, which they drain and cover with gravel or earth, that produce good potatoes.

No other way of laying land to grass, than sowing red clover, or oftener nothing, and leaving it.

MEADOWS

MEADOWS for the year let from 3 to 4l. an acre, merely for the hay, upon which they get 10 load an acre. Grafs is mostly applied to fattening cows which they buy in in may at 4l. and sell in november at 6l. one acre of good land will do for them, but if not good one and a half.

THE cows give two to three gallons of milk a day, and yield 40s. produce per year by butter and calf. Feed them in winter with oat-straw, and hay. An ox hide, if it weighs 100 lb. three pence per lb. if not two pence halfpenny. A cow hide two pence halfpenny if above 60 lb. if less two pence. Dearer than they were.

THE tillage is all done with horses, use four in a plough, and do better than half an acre a day. The price with harrowing 10s. an acre. The depth six inches for winter corn; they lay the lands in round ridges four or five feet broad. Keeping a horse the summer at grafs 1l. 10s. No cutting chaff, but throw their own away in the winnowing. The hire of a car, and horse, and driver, ten pence a day. In hiring and stocking farms, they will take one of 50 acres, without any thing but four horses and six cows, depending for food upon what they bring; for labour upon themselves and the cottars that come with them; and make none or scarce any profit.

LAND sells at 21 years purchase rack rent, rents have fallen 25 per cent since 1770. In 1768, 1769, and 1770, they were much above their value. Tythes are compounded for, wheat, bere, and barley 7s. oats 5s. meadow 2s. sheep 3d. No tea drank.

LEASES common are, 31 years to catholicks, and three lives to protestants. Great part of the country let to middle men, who re-let it to sub-tenants, generally with a profit greater than they pay the landlord. Carry their corn to the mill of Carrick five miles

miles off. Rents of cabbins 20 to 25s. with a rood of ground, if land with it, which is generally the case, they pay 30s. an acre. For grazing a cow 25s. and for a horse 30s. No emigrations. Twenty to one of the lower people roman catholics.

EXPENCE of building a cabin 40s. and for a farm of 50 acres 5l. They will hire farms and take all the buildings upon themselves. Both cottars and little farmers are in a worse situation than they were 20 years ago. All of them have turf for firing, and one week's labour in a year will supply a cabin.

Cutting turf 3d a kish or cubical yard

A ditch six feet wide, and five deep 20d.

In burning lime, a kish of turf burns 2 barrels of lime.

Sells at the kiln at 6d. a barrel.

Among Lord Longford's farms in this country are the following:

	£.	Let	£.
276 acres	75	rent 1736 worth now	250
410	112	ditto	410
242 } 150 bog }	70	ditto	240
600 } 400 }	118	ditto	600
150	49	ditto	140
122	41	ditto	100
270	95	ditto	270
330	100	ditto	100
377	334	1773	334
60	16	1739	40
383	150	1749	300
655 } 1500 bog }	225	ditto	700
303	121	1750	300
325	236	ditto	320
457	186	1756	400
	<hr/> 1928		<hr/> 4504

From which table may be seen the comparative value of lands in 40 years: it has more than doubled in 30.

GRASS land, gravelled, will let to the poor at 5*l.* for potatoes. Very good old grafs, without any manure, 4*l.* 4*s.* and as much more for the second year for flax: after that, would give 3*l.* for oats, and they will give 5*l.* for dunged stubble for potatoes.

THE expences, per acre, of a crop:

	£.	s.	d.
Rent - - -	5	0	0
4 Barrels of feed - -	1	0	0
Planting - - -	3	0	0
Taking up - - -	1	10	0
	<hr/>		
	10	10	0
	<hr/>		

The crop 80 barrels. Prime cost 2*s.* 6*d.*

LORD Longford has some black bottom land, as it is called here; that is, black red bog partially drained ten or twelve years ago, some of it tolerably dry: other parts so wet, that a beast can scarcely venture on it with safety. One part is a reddish bog, three feet deep, which 12 years ago, was burnt a foot deep; and at the same time open drains made 10 feet wide at top, and 7 deep, the bog being formed by the drains into beds 40 feet wide. The spontaneous rubbish, heath chiefly is now coming fast again, but it never has been cultivated; where the fires were made are spots of fine white clover. This land, at present, would let for nothing, but it is highly improveable.

HIS Lordship has had two acres and an half of turneps on just such, and the crop was exceedingly good: he has always remarked in
burning,

burning, that wherever there were many ashes, there are sure to be good turneps. The two acres and an half kept seven bullocks, each 8 cwt. and sixty sheep, three months. On four acres of the same sort, he has now a crop of turneps sown: it was drained 10 years ago. This summer he dug it over, levelled it, and burnt the spit in great heaps: this digging cost 3l. 10s. an acre. The burning 1l. It was harrowed with bullocks, which, with seed, &c. he reckons 10s. in all 5l. an acre, which expence he knows by experience is repaid by the crop of turneps. In harrowing, if a bullock in a soft place sinks in, they slip the harness off him, and set the others to drag him out by the horns, fixing the rope round the horns as in hoisting an ox into a ship.

I REMARKED, upon this boggy bottom, a small plantation of scotch firs, which did very well, and larch still better. Willows will not thrive. A gentleman inclosed and drained four acres, which he planted with them, and they shot away for four years, but then all died. They do, however, very well in the turf itself, if the upper surface of sponge is cleared away. In improving any bogs, Lord Longford thinks the tillage should be renewed alternately with grafs every six or seven years, or it will cover again with heath (*erica*) burning it the best way.

HIS Lordship has tried cabbages several times, and he finds that while they last they are better than turneps, but prefers the latter on account of the short duration of the former.

LIMESTONE gravel he has tried on a large scale, lays 1000 loads an acre, at 1l. 10s. expence, if it is in the field. The effect prodigious wherever it is laid. On a bare rocky spot in the front of the house, where the earth had been cleared away, and there was no vegetation but of weeds, some gravel was spread, and it brought up an exceeding thick coat of white and red clover. It is also infallible in destroying moss.

JULY

JULY 4th, Lord Longford carried me to a Mr. Marly's, an improver in the neighbourhood, who has done great things, and without the benefit of such leases as protestants in Ireland commonly have. He rents 1000 acres; at first it was at 20d. an acre, in the next term 5s. or 250l. a year, and he now pays 850l. a year for it. Almost the whole farm is mountain-land; the spontaneous growth heath, &c. he has improved 500 acres. His method has been to grub up the rubbish, and then to summer fallow it, and to manure it with limestone gravel 1400 load an acre, at the expence of 2l. 2s. Upon this he sows wheat or bere, gets 9 barrels an acre of wheat, and 19 of bere, then oats 12 to 15 barrels. After which he fallows again, and finishes the second or third course with red clover, sown with barley or oats after wheat. If this takes very well, he leaves it to turf itself. White clover comes as fast as the red wears out; for the first four or five years it supports only sheep, but as it improves, which it does very fast, he grazes it with black cattle.

LIME he has tried instead of gravel, 160 barrels an acre at 1s. but it did not better than gravel at one-fourth the expence. In gravelling, the beginning of the pit he has found good for nothing; and the deeper it is dug, it is so much the better. It will not do twice, but will last 8 crops, with 2 fallows.

JUST such an account would be given of marle in Norfolk, if they practised so bad a course of crops. Any manuring with so powerful an alcaly as marle leaves the ground, after an exhausting course of crops, in much worse order than it found it. Would but the irish farmers pursue the Norfolk system, of never letting two crops of white corn come together, they would not then find their gravel exhausted in 8 crops: it would probably last 20, and in that management they might gravel again and again.

HE has the white light marle under boggy bottoms, and has used much of it, but does not find it answer so well as gravel.

HE applies his grafs to fattening cows, &c. in the system I have mentioned more than once; sheep he both buys in to fat, and keeps his own breeding stock.

HE is very attentive in fattening his wethers; he buys in october at 30s. or 32s. each, begins at christmas to feed them with bran and oats, one quart of each per diem, and continues it for three months: has sold at 31. 5s. but on an average at 40s. This he thinks better and cheaper than turneps, which he has tried, but finds too dear in the expence of drawing, and if fed in the field, thinks half of them lost; the oats at 5s. 6d. a barrel, the bran at 1s.

	£.	s.	d.
90 Days oats 1 £. say 3 bushels, at 5s. 6d. a barrel	0	4	1
90 Ditto bran - - - - -	0	0	9
	<hr/>		
	0	4	10
	<hr/>		

IT was with regret I heard that the rent of a man who had been so spirited an improver, should be raised so exceedingly. He merited for his life the returns of his industry. But the cruel laws against the roman catholics of this country, remain the marks of illiberal barbarism. Why should not the industrious man have a spur to his industry whatever be his religion; and what industry is to be expected from them in a country where leases for lives are universal, if they are secluded from terms common to every one else? What mischief could flow from letting them have leases for life? None; but much good in animating their industry. It is impossible that the prosperity of a nation should have its natural progress, where four fifths of the people are cut off from those advantages which are heaped upon the domineering aristocracy of the small remainder.

IN

IN conversation with Lord Longford I made many enquiries concerning the state of the lower classes, and found that in some respects they were in good circumstances, in others indifferent; they have, generally speaking, such plenty of potatoes, as always to command a bellyful; they have flax enough for all their linen, most of them have a cow and some two, and spin wool enough for their cloaths; all a pig, and numbers of poultry, and in general the complete family of cows, calves, hogs, poultry, and children, pig together in the cabbin; fuel they have in the utmost plenty; great numbers of families are also supported by the neighbouring lakes which abound prodigiously with fish; a child with a packthread and a crooked pin, will catch perch enough in an hour for the family to live on the whole day, and his Lordship has seen 500 children fishing at the same time, there being no tenaciousness in the proprietors of the lands about a right to the fish; besides perch, there is pike upwards of five feet long, bream, tench, trout of 10 lb. and as red as a salmon, and fine eels; all these are favourable circumstances, and are very conspicuous in the numerous and healthy families among them.

REVERSE the medal: they are ill cloathed, and make a wretched appearance, and what is worse, are much oppressed by many who make them pay too dear for keeping a cow, horse, &c. They have a practice also of keeping accounts with the labourers, contriving by that means, to let the poor wretches have very little cash for their year's work. This is a great oppression, farmers and gentlemen keeping accounts with the poor is a cruel abuse: so many days work for a cabbin—so many for a potatoe garden—so many for keeping a horse—and so many for a cow, are clear accounts which a poor man can understand well, but farther it ought never to go; and when he has worked out what he has of this sort, the rest of his work ought punctually to be paid him every saturday night. Another circumstance mentioned was the excessive practice they have in general of pilfering. They steal every thing they can lay their hands on—and I should remark, that this is an

account which has been very generally given me : all forts of iron hinges, chains, locks, keys, &c.—gates will be cut in pieces, and conveyed away in many places as fast as built ; trees as big as a man's body, and that would require ten men to move, gone in a night. Lord Longford has had the new wheels of a car stolen as soon as made. Good stones out of a wall will be taken for a fire-hearth, &c. though a breach is made to get at them. In short, every thing, and even such as are apparently of no use to them—nor is it easy to catch them, for they never carry their stolen goods home, but to some bog-hole. Turneps are stolen by car loads ; and two acres of wheat pluckt off in a night. In short, their pilfering and stealing is a perfect nuisance ! How far it is owing to the oppression of laws aimed solely at the religion of these people, how far to the conduct of the gentlemen and farmers, and how far to the mischievous disposition of the people themselves, it is impossible for a passing traveller to ascertain. I am apt to believe that a better system of law and management would have good effects. They are much worse treated than the poor in England, are talked to in more opprobrious terms, and otherwise very much oppressed.

LEFT Packenham-hall.

Two or three miles from Lord Longford's, in the way to Mullingar, the road leads up a mountain, and commands an exceeding fine view of Loch Derrevaragh, a noble water eight miles long, and from two miles to half a mile over ; a vast reach of it, like a magnificent river, opens as you rise the hill. Afterwards I passed under the principal mountain, which rises abruptly from the lake into the boldest outline imaginable ; the water there is very beautiful, filling up the steep vale formed by this and the opposite hills.

REACHED Mullingar.

IT

IT was one of the fair days. I saw many cows and beasts, and more horses, with some wool: the cattle were of the same breed that I had generally seen in coming through the country.

JULY 5th, left Mullingar, which is a dirty ugly town, and taking the road to Tullamore, stopped at Lord Belvidere's, with which place I was as much struck as with any I had ever seen. The house is perched on the crown of a very beautiful little hill, half surrounded with others, variegated and melting into one another. It is one of the most singular places that is any where to be seen, and spreading to the eye a beautiful lawn of undulating ground margined with wood. Single trees are scattered in some places, and clumps in others; the general effect so pleasing, that were there nothing further, the place would be beautiful, but the canvas is admirably filled. Lake Ennel, many miles in length, and two or three broad, flows beneath the windows. It is spotted with islets, a promontory of rock fringed with trees shoots into it, and the whole is bounded by distant hills. Greater and more magnificent scenes are often met with, but no where a more beautiful or a more singular one.

FROM Mullingar to Tullamore, I found rents in general at 20s. an acre, with much relet at 30s. yet all the crops, except bere, were very bad, and full of weeds. About the latter named place, the farms are generally from 100 to 300 acres, and their course, 1. Fallow. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. Great quantities of potatoes all the way, crops from 40 to 80 barrels.

THE road before it comes to Tullamore leads through a part of the bog of Allen, which seems here extensive, and would make a noble tract of meadow. The way the road was made over it was simply to cut a drain on each side, and then lay on gravel, which, as fast as it was laid and spread, bore the cars: along the edges is fine white clover.

PART

PART of Tullamore is well built. I passed through it to Captain Johnston's at Charleville, to whom I am indebted for the following account of the husbandry of the neighbourhood.

FARMS, around Tullamore, are commonly 100 to 300 acres, but some smaller, and some of 5 or 600. The soil is generally a dry sound gravelly loam, lets from 12s. to 18s. average 16s. five miles every way around. Average of land let in the whole county 15s. exclusive of bog. He thinks that one-seventh of the county is bog or mountain; but the latter pays from 1s. 6d. to 3s. The course of crops:

1. Oats on lay, sow one barrel and an half, get 10 to 15.
2. Fallow.
3. Wheat, sow three-fourths to 1 barrel, get 4 to 7 barrels.
4. Oats.

1. Oats.
2. Fallow.
3. Wheat.
4. Oats.
5. Pease.

1. Potatoes on grass with dung, or burn-bating.
2. Bere, sow three-fourths of a barrel, get 12 to 20 barrels.
3. Wheat.
4. Oats.
5. Fallow.

Some 1. pare, and burn for turneps.

2. Potatoes at 6l. an acre rent.
3. Bere.
4. Wheat.
5. Oats.
6. Fallow.

They are exceedingly late in sowing, not finishing their wheat and bere till after christmas. They sow rape on low grounds by the edge of bogs, upon paring and burning for feed; they get 12 to 15 bar-

15 barrels an acre, worth from 12s. to 20s. a barrel. They sow it on the ground without covering after ploughing, and the rougher the land the better. Sow rye after it, and then oats, getting good crops; and lay it down with grafs seeds from lofts, or ray grafs, or clover and trefoile. For turneps on fallow, plough sometimes thrice, oftener twice, lay on no manure for them, nor hoe them, get very bad crops. If pare and burn they plough twice; but a penalty is laid of 5l. an acre for doing it. They eat them with sheep both drawn and on the land. Very little clover sown. Flax is sown very generally, from patches up to three or four acres, they do the whole of it themselves, spinning and weaving. About good friday is the time of sowing; but later sown is bad. The sky farmers, (and often the better sort) that is the petty ones, let potatoe ground for it, at 6l. an acre to cottars.

GREAT quantities of potatoes in the trenching way, and all the dung is used for them. A common way is, for the farmers to let them have land for nothing, upon condition of their dunging it, which all do that have not land of their own: if not, they pay from 4l. to 6l. dunged, or turnep land fed with sheep, which they prefer, the potatoes being drier and better. The apple potatoe is most esteemed, because they are great bearers, last through the summer, and have been kept two years. Not much lime used, having been tried, but has not answered; limestone gravel on lay to be broken up, has a very great effect. The expence 10s. or 15s. The grafs is chiefly applied to heifers, or store bullocks; the first sold in small parcels at home, the latter at Ballynasloe or Bannagher. They buy them in at a year or two years old; the first 30s. to 50s. the latter from 55s. to 57s. Keep them a year and four or five months, or only a year: in a year they will make, by the first, 25s. to 30s. and from 30s. to 40s. by the others.

WHERE-

WHEREVER the land is good enough, a few cows bought in for fattening, in may, at 1l. 15s. to 5l. and sold with 40s. a head profit. The poor people all rear calves.

MANY sheep bred; the best farmers breed and sell them fat in three years old, wethers at michaelmas, from 18s. to 24s. if in spring, from 24s. to 44s. Clip from 5 to 7 lb. of wool.

THE tillage is done by oxen, four in a plough, not half an acre a day, the sly farmers sometimes will put one horse and a cow in. Oxen are reckoned best. They cut no chaff, but winnow in the field.

HIRE of a boy, horse and car 1s. 1d.

THE sly farmer will take 40 or 50 acres, with 3 or four cows and a horse or two, and 5l. 5s. in their pockets. Tythes are compounded, 5s. for winter corn, 3s. for spring corn, 25s. 1000 sheep. Mowing ground, 5s.

LAND sells for 20 years purchase, rack rent has fallen two years purchase in seven years, and the rent has fallen from 3s. to 5s. in the same time. No tea. County cess 6d. Very few middle men left. Cottages with half an acre, let for 20s. with two acres, which is common, 40s. No emigrations, Religion, lower classes all roman. Not one cottar in six has a cow about towns; but in the country, about half of them have. Most of them have a pig, and much poultry. They are not more thieving than for a few turneps and cabbages for their own use, nor that to any excess. Many of the poor have reclaimed much bog, the premiums of the Dublin Society have induced them to do it: which are now 50s. an acre: by gradual draining, either from cutting turf, or making bounds, or from drainings purposely done, they get to peat, and burn it 4 to 6 inches deep, at 20s. an acre, and sow
bere,

bere, rye, or potatoes; the bere does best, and next year another crop of corn; and then another burning, and 2 more crops, the potatoes are wet, but will do for feed, and they will escape the frost in a bog, when they are killed in the high lands. They pay nothing for the bog, having land adjoining.

THEY lay the bits down to grafs, sowing feeds, but the crop is generally very thin and poor, and after a year or two, burn it again; sometimes put out a little dung or gravel on the grafs, and plant it with potatoes. Some have put potatoes in upon a red bog, with no other preparation, than laying a poor, sharp, sandy gravel on it, and got tolerable crops.

Mr. JOHNSTON has cultivated cabbages for several years. In 1772 he had one acre, in 1773 $2\frac{1}{2}$, and since that, between 1 and 2 acres every year. The great scotch sort which he sows in february, and plants out in 4 feet rows, and 18 inches, from plant to plant, the beginning of june. If the plants are not in the ground then, the crop will not be good. Ploughs for them twice, and dungs richly in the furrows. Horse hoes twice or thrice, and hand weeds them; they come from 5 to 12 lb. but have always began to burst in september. Has used them for fattening sheep, that would not fatten on grafs; also for bullocks, which throve perfectly well, likewise the leaves (with great care in picking) to milch cows, but the butter tasted. Finds that the principal use of them is for bringing on cattle that will not finish at grafs, and to be used all before christmas. Barley that has been sown upon cabbage land which succeeded potatoes, a vast crop, 24 barrels an acre. Turneps Mr. Johnston has had for these ten years, from 1 to 4 acres, and has always applied them to fattening sheep, for which purpose he finds them excellent; and best to feed in the field, because fast in the ground for the sheep to bite at, provided there is some grafs for them to lie on.

HAS deviated from the common late sowing of wheat, putting his in the beginning of september, and finds his harvest so much earlier, that his is in the *baggard* (reek yard) when others are cutting.

HIS tillage he performs with only 2 horses. Mr. Johnston is a great friend to the irish cars: He carries 10 to 12 cwt. of turf,

H

3 statute

3 statute kishes of hard stone turf, each horse 10 turns a day, or 20 miles, and all done on grafs alone.

JULY 6th went to Rathan, where Lord Shelburne has placed a Norfolk bailiff, Mr. Vancouver, for the management of a farm he took into his own hands, who brought with him a plowman, plough, harrow and tackle. The design does honour to the nobleman who formed it; and Mr. Vancouver is not likely to disappoint him; he is a sensible, intelligent active man, who went through all the manual part of farming in a seven year's apprenticeship to a great farmer in Norfolk. I found him just what I could wish, disgusted neither with the country nor the people, pleased and animated with the prospect of improvement before him, and had no doubt of success. He was going on perfectly well; ploughing off the turf of a boggy bottom, adjoining to a great bog; burning it into small heaps, and intending immediately to plough and sow turneps, of which, he will have 12 acres this year, and purposes having many more the year after; he has cut some very long drains into the bog, designs attacking it, and expects to make it excellent land, though instead of ploughing it first for burning, he must dig it; I am clear he will not be disappointed: he has a fine field to work upon, for Lord Shelburne has 4000 acres of bog here. The high parts of the farm, are a rough lime stone land, but very dry and sound, he designs in winter, grubbing the rubbish, burning all the stone into lime, and ploughing it for turneps the following year. Let me observe, that this is the right conduct of rough land, which should always be brought into turnips first, and not fallowed for wheat, as all the irish improvers do, who follow their wheat with so many crops of spring corn, that their soil is presently exhausted. If turneps are had, dung is gained, and the land in order, which paves the way to every thing else. Too much cannot be said in praise of this undertaking of Lord Shelburne's. An opening is made by it, to a new field in husbandry, which I foresee may prove of infinite consequence to the kingdom in general. Mr. Vancouver being acquainted with several modes of improvement in England, and perfectly versed in the Norfolk husbandry, is placed with

with great judgment where he can exert both. Perhaps I was the better pleased with this improvement from being instrumental in procuring his lordship the person who is executing it. Near this place is a farm of 150 acres, and 1500 bog, to be let on a lease for ever, at 130 l. a year.

WENT from Rathen to the Glebe, a lodge belonging to Dean Coote, and from thence to Shaen castle, near Mount-mellick, his residence; passed near large tracts of mountain, waste and bog; and not far from a great range of the bog of Allen. Saw but little good corn; they were burning some boggy bottoms in order to fallow for bere; but it should be for turneps.

FOR the following particulars I am indebted to the obliging attention of the dean. About Shaen castle farms of 40 or 50 acres are very common, some few rise to 3 or 400. The soil is either lime stone, lime-stone gravel, or moor; lets at 13s. an acre on a medium.

THE COURSE.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, sow 1 barrel, produce $5\frac{1}{2}$. 3. Peas, sow $\frac{3}{4}$ barrel, and get 5 to 10.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats, sow 2 barrels, get 8 to 15.

Also, 1. They burn moors for turneps: no hoeing, draw them for sheep. 2. Barley or bere, sow 1 barrel of bere, get 8 to 18. Sow of barley 1 barrel, get as much barley as bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats; after which they leave it to graze itself. Also on moory lands, rape or rye instead of, or after turneps.

FLAX is sown by all poor people and little farmers for their own use.

POTATOES are so much planted that all the dung of the country is applied to them; some few plant them with the plough, but it does not well, unless the land is summer fallowed: the chief culture is in the gardens of the cabbins, for they hire no land of the farmers for potatoes. No sheep folding. Lime-stone gravel is much used for tillage land, and the benefit found great for six or seven crops.

THE grafs is applied to fattening, dairying, and sheep. Dairies from 30 to 40 cows are common here; they keep them in their own hands. An acre and a half of middling grafs for a cow. Some make butter, but none, if the cheefe is good. $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of cheefe is a good produce per cow, price from 25 to 30s per cwt. with 1l. 1s. for the calf, at 5 or 6 weeks old: rear very few.

THE fattening system is to buy in at 3l. to 6l. in april, may, and june, and sell out with 30s. or 42s. shillings profit, quite to christmas. Flocks of sheep rise to 5 or 600; the profit lamb at 5s. to 9s. and the ewe's wool 4lb. In the winter they are on the walks, unless in frost and snow, when they get some hay or turneps. Wool 15s. to 17s. a stone, but within 15 years was 10s. 6d. It is bought up by combers, who keep spinners in the country to spin it into yarn, which is sold to factors for foreign markets. They are much troubled with the rot upon the moors; and a wet season will rot them even on lime-stone land. Plough mostly with horses, using 4, often for the second time of fallowing 6: they do $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre; 4 bullocks, which gentlemen and good farmers use, will do $\frac{1}{2}$, price 7s. an acre. For winter corn they throw the lands narrow, and arched up: no shovelling furrows, but strike them with the plough. Keeping a horse 3l. 3s. a year, and a working bullock 40s. Break their fallows from november to february. Hire of a horse, boy, and car from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d.

IN hiring and stocking farms 3l. an acre they reckon necessary.

LAND sells at 20 years purchase; has fallen in 5 or 6 years 2s. to 6s. an acre, in general 5. Tythes are compounded for, wheat 7s. bere 6s. barley 5s. oats 3s. 6d. mowing ground 3s. pease 2s. 6d. No tea in the cabbins, nor yet a bellyfull of potatoes. They have an acre of land and a cottage for 1l. 1s. to 1l. 10s. and about $\frac{1}{4}$ of that in potatoes, they buy when they have not of their own, both oats, meal, or potatoes; a barrel of potatoes will last a man, his wife, and four children a week; one barrel of oats will yield 1 cwt. of oatmeal, which sells at 8s. 6d. to 10s. and will in *stir-about* last them a week, that is
the

the same time as a barrel of potatoes. They in general keep a cow at 1l. 1s. to 1l. 10s. but they must buy 12s. or 14s. of hay for her. They also keep a pig on offal.

STEALING is very common, they take every thing they can lay their hands on, yet are not so poor here as in Clare and Tipperary. Corn all carried to Dublin for the premium, that on the malt and flour pays all the expences, but not the wheat. Population evidently increases. No emigrations. Religion of the lower classes all catholick. A poor man's firing 14s. or 15s.

EXPENCE of building a cabbin 3l. 3s. of stone and slate 20l. all to a farm of 50 acres, of stone and slate 300l.

IN conversation upon the subject of a union with Great Britain, I was informed that nothing was so unpopular in Ireland as such an idea; and that the great objection to it was increasing the number of absentees. When it was in agitation, 20 peers and 60 commoners were talked of to sit in the british parliament, which would be the resident of 80 of the best estates in Ireland. Going every year to England would, by degrees, make them residents; they would educate their children there, and in time become mere absentees: becoming so they would be unpopular, others would be elected, who, treading in the same steps, would yield the place still to others; and thus, by degrees, a vast portion of the kingdom now resident would be made absentees; which would, they think, be so great a drain to Ireland, that a free trade would not repay it.

I THINK the idea is erroneous, were it only for one circumstance, the kingdom would lose, according to this reasoning, an idle race of country gentlemen, and in exchange their ports would fill with ships and commerce, and all the consequences of commerce; an exchange that never yet proved disadvantageous to any country.

THE dean's improvements of bog ground are extensive; he drained very completely, and then ploughed or dug it for burning, upon which sowed mellin, which succeeded very well, yielding 13 barrels an acre. Then oats ploughed for, and got 10 barrels; and sowed hay seeds, ray grass (*colium perenne*) and clover
(tri-

(*trifolium pratense* :) before the improvement began, it was not worth 1s. 6 d. an acre, but made it 14 s.

Another part of the bog was leveled and burnt, the ashes spread, and turnep seed harrowed in, did very well, fed sheep with them; after which, rubbish, clay, and lime-stone gravel spread on it, 1000 load an acre, or 40 s. an acre, and grafs seeds sown, which made it worth 1l. 1s. an acre. Turneps, dean Coote has had these 20 years, both in the drill and broad-cast, and found the drill method much the best, but owing, I apprehend, to the hoeing of the broad-cast not being well performed. Had them always for feeding sheep, and found the eating equal to a coat of dung.

He folded his sheep for two years, but could not bring his people to continue it without too much trouble.

LIME he has tried much on the lime-stone ground, but did not find it answer at all.

WOULD recommend in the improvement of bogs, to begin with one great drain round the intended improvement, 12 feet wide at top, cut to the gravel, and 4 feet wide at bottom; then to cut cross drains into that, which also ought to go down to the gravel: leave it for a year, if it is bad; then turn it up with the spade or plough, burn it, and sow turneps or rape, and do it again the same next year, with a second burning, after which oats may be had, and laid down to grafs, which will be good, but much better if gravelled. Dean Coote has received from the Dublin society several gold medals for the improvement of bog, culture of turneps, &c.

JULY 8th, left Shaen Castle, and took the road towards Athy; breakfasted with dean Walsh, at general Walsh's, in that gentleman's absence.

THE general is a considerable farmer, and a yet greater improver; he has built 12 new farm houses, also 30 cabbins that have 90 cows, and each 2 to 4 acres, at 20 s. an acre.

HE has tried potatoes with the plow, instead of the trenching way, he manured 2 acres of strong land with 400 load of dung, which he ploughed in, and then dibbled the sets in, 15 inches square,

square, he hand-hoed them twice, and got 176 barrels per acre. The common crops do not exceed 90 barrels.

He has generally 7 or 8 acres of turneps, and 2 or 3 of cabbages, with which he feeds both cattle and sheep, and with great success. He practices tillage principally to bring his land into order, and throws it into the following course.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Clover or trefoile, 2 years.

When he sows barley on potatoe land, he gets 20 barrels an acre. One article in the management of his estate cannot be too much praised: wherever he lets a farm that has only a common ordinary cabbinn on it, he obliges the new tenant to build a good house of stone and slate, allowing him considerably towards the expence. The common course of crops here is,

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, yielding from 7 to 9 barrels. 3. Barley, 15 barrels. 4. Oats, 15 to 20. 5. Left for Grafs.

The poor here have all of them potatoes, as far as their dung will go: when they hire grafs land to plant them on, the account of an acre is as follows:

10 barrels of feed, at 3s. 4d.	-	-	-	-	-	1	13	4
Planting, cutting, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Second trenching	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Weeding	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Taking up, 40 men a day at 7d.	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
Rent	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	0
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						£	8	14 2

The average crop 80 barrels, which is 2s. 2d. a barrel prime cost.

They have them the year round in plenty; they are cheaper than oatmeal, and they like them better. They sow very little flax, and some none at all. Many of them are master of a car and horse, with which they work for hire; also one or two pigs, and much poultry by means of their potatoes.

Leaving General Walsh's, passed a fine wood on the right, within a wall. See much good wheat and bere to Athy. Going through that town the road leads on the banks of the river Barrow, which winds through the vale to the right; the verdure
beau-

beautiful, and the country pleasant. Pass over much light dry sandy gravelly loam, as fine turnep land as I ever saw, but not one cultivated in the country. It is this soil all the way from Athy to Carlow; lets from 16s. to 20s. an acre. The courses are:

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, yielding 5 or 6 barrels.

Also, 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats, and grass feeds, or left to turf itself, they use lime with success: they have gravel, but that does best for strong lands, and this upon land formed for 20 barrels an acre of barley after turneps. These people by the Norfolk husbandry would make a crown where they now receive six pence.

CALLED on Mr. Vicars at Ballynakill, a considerable grazier, who farms near 2000 acres in different counties. His husbandry consists chiefly of feeding sheep and bullocks: one sheep system is to keep ewes for breeding, the sale being 3 year old wethers, some of the oldest ewes and the wool. The wethers sell from 20 to 28s. each, and the quantity of wool $2\frac{1}{2}$ to a stone, (the stone of wool in Ireland 16 lb.) Another system is to buy in ewes in autumn, and to sell the lambs fat, and then the ewes. Grazing, in this country, consists in buying bullocks in October, at 5l. or 6l. each; give them some hay in bad weather, and sell them fat, with 40s. or 50s. profit. Cows are bought in in May, and sold fat from harvest to autumn. Many dairies, not let to labourers, but kept for making butter; a cow will make 1 cwt. at 2l. 10s. and the calf 4s. The cabins let here at 20s. each, and 30s. they pay for the pasturage of a cow, which they all keep. The account of potatoes is:

RENT	-	-	-	-	£. 5	0	0
8 Barrels of seed, 4s. 6d.	-	-	-	-	1	16	0
Putting in	-	-	-	-	2	10	0
Taking up	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
					<hr/>		
					10	16	0

The average crop 60 barrels, prime cost therefore 3s. 6d. Average rent of the whole county of Carlow, 15s.

PASSED on to Mr. Browne at Brownshill, who has built a very good and convenient house, in an open situation, commanding
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an extensive prospect; gained here several articles of information relative to the same neighbourhood as Mr. Vicar is in. They plough chiefly with oxen, four in a plough, but do not half an acre a day, which is a quantity four horses will do easily.

TILLAGE is very much increased here, and almost entirely owing to the inland premiums; the people also increase much. Tythes are, Wheat 5s. Bere 4s. Barley 3s. Oats 2s. 6d. Mowing ground 3s. and of sheep in kind.

THROUGHOUT the county of Carlow the hiring tenant is in general the occupier, except in small pieces.

IN front of Mr. Browne's house is a mountain, which I remarked was cultivated very high up the sides; and upon enquiry found that it was done by cottars, who pay the high rent of 10s. an acre in order to improve: they pare it with a plough, and burn the furrow, lime and fallow it for wheat, of which they get six barrels per acre; after which they sow oats, and get 10 barrels, laying down with grass feeds. Some they reclaim with potatoes. Much of the mountain is wet, so that they are forced to drain it with open cuts.

MR. BROWNE keeps 800 sheep, which consist of 200 ewes; 100 ditto, 2 years old; 100 ditto, 3 years old, wethers; 200 ditto 1 year old, ditto *boggits*; 200 Lambs. And he sells every year

120 three year old wethers, at 25s.	-	£.	150	0	0	
80 culled ewes, at 16s.	-	-	-	64	0	0
220 stone of wool, at 16s.	-	-	-	176	0	0

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In the winter they eat, of hay, 25 ton.

HEARD of a very spirited farmer at Carlow, a Mr. Hamilton, on whom I should have called, but was told that he was absent. He has gone so much into the turnep husbandry as to have 100 acres in a year, and 8 or 10 acres of cabbages; sows them much on pared and burnt land; keeps by their means a vast stock of cattle; stall feeds many bullocks, buying straw for litter in order to make dung; besides which he buys all the dung he can, and

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burns much lime, taking in short every means to keep his lands clean and in good heart. Such an example ought to be powerful in creating imitators, but I could not find it had any such effect among the common farmers.

JULY 9th, left Brownshill, and taking the road to Laughlin-bridge, called on Mr. James Butler at Ballybar, a very active and intelligent farmer upon a considerable scale. He has generally 4 or 5 acres of cabbages, which he uses for his fat wethers of four years old; the produce of them he finds greater, and the sheep too like them better than turneps. He has sometimes 20 acres of turneps, and hoes them all. This year none.—It is a sign the cultivation is not well understood in a country, when a man has one year 20 acres, and another none. A principal part of the advantage of the consumption is lost, if the cattle system is not regularly arranged with an eye to the turnep crop.

MR. BUTLER buys every year 40 year old beasts, at from 30s. to 40s. Keeps them till three years and an half old, and then fells them fat. Also 20 bullocks, at 5l. which he fells fat at 8l. His cows he buys in may, from 3l. to 3l. 10s. each. The profit 40s. a head. The best grass he has will carry a bullock an acre. His sheep system is to buy three year old wethers in october, at 25s. each, which he begins to fell in the spring, and through the summer, at 34s. In the winter they have hay.

His improved course of crops is:

1. Turneps, or cabbages. 2. Barley, yielding 20 barrels an acre, 3. Clover, and upon that grasses afterwards to lay down.

The courses general are:

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| 1. Fallow. | 1. Potatoes. |
| 2. Wheat $7\frac{1}{2}$ barrels an acre. | 2. Wheat. |
| 3. Barley. | 3. Barley, 14 barrels an acre. |
| 4. Oats. | 4. Oats, 12 ditto. |
| | 5. Fallow, and then as above. |

Their lands let at 30s. an acre, being a very good stony loam. Most in this neighbourhood were grazing ones, carrying bullocks and sheep; but since the premiums on land-carriage corn, they have been broken up, and are now as 1 to 20. The number of
sheep

sheep particularly is so much lessened, that only four persons, Mr. Bunbury, the two Mr. Bernards', and Mr. Keef, had, 20 years ago, more sheep among them than there are now in the whole county.

HAVING taken a short walk with Mr. Butler, passed on to Captain Mercer's mill at Laughlin-bridge. I had been told that this was one of the most considerable mills in Ireland; and had a letter of recommendation to Mr. Mercer, which through carelessness I had lost. I did not care, however, to pass without seeing the mill, drove down to it, and was in the awkward situation of explaining myself to be a traveller—what I wanted—from whence I came—and so forth: but the good-nature and politeness of Mr. Mercer presently dissipated the disagreeableness of those first explanatory moments. He shewed me the mill, and explained every thing with the utmost civility. It is a very large and convenient one; grinds 15,000 barrels a year, and if there was a brisker demand could do yet more.

I FOUND the same necessity of kiln drying here as at Slaine mill, and made the same observation that the wheat was none of it of a fine bright colour, like what is common in England.

THE farmers also dress their corn in so slovenly a manner, that there is the same necessity of dressing it over again, for which very powerful machines are contrived. The whole is very well calculated for saving labour in every operation, and only eight hands are employed. After the mill was built, Mr. Mercer made many alterations of his own, to render it more simple and effective, which have fully answered his expectations. The barrel of bran here is 4 stone, and sells for 8d. Mr. Mercer has tried feeding cattle with it, but could never make more than 6d. by it: has also fattened hogs with it, but in no use will it pay more than 6d.

NOTHING interesting from hence to Kilfaine. I saw some very good crops of wheat, but the country is bleak, and wants wood much. Reached Gervas Parker Buthe's, Esq; at that place in the evening, who received me with a politeness equalled only by the value of his intelligence.

JULY 10th, accompanied Mr. Bushe, in a ride through the neighbourhood, to view the country, which is a great corn one. Called at several farms, and made enquiries into the culture, &c.

VIEWED Mount Juliet, Lord Carrick's seat, which is beautifully situated on a fine declivity on the banks of the Nore, commanding some extensive plantations that spread over the hills, which rise in a various manner on the other side the river: a knole of lawn rises among them, with artificial ruins upon it, but the situation is not in unison with the idea of a ruin, very rarely placed to effect, unless in retired and melancholy spots.

THE river is a very fine one, and has a good accompaniment of well grown wood. From the cottage a more varied scene is viewed, chearful and pleasing; and from the tent, in the farther plantation, a yet gayer one, which looks down on several bends of the river.

IT was impossible for any one to take more pains, that I should be well informed of every particular concerning husbandry, than Mr. Bushe; the following particulars I owe to his most ample intelligence.

ABOUT Kilfaine, farms rise generally from 100 to 200 acres, among many very small ones, but scarcely any so high as 400; the soil a dry sound gravelly loam, with many stones, much inclinable to sand. As fine turnep-land as any in the world; as to rent, there are three-fifths of it good land, at 20s. an acre; one-fifth worse, and fit for pasture, 15 s. and another mountain and land of little value: the first nothing; the other 5s. average 3s. and general average 16 s.

THE courses of crops are,

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, sow 1 barrel, and get on an average 6.
3. Barley, the crop 10 barrels. 4. Oats, the crop 8 ditto, or

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| 1. Fallow. | 1. Fallow. |
| 2. Wheat | 2. Wheat, which surprized me much, for it is |
| 3. Oats. | very contrary to the spirit of successive crops. |
| | 1. Po- |

1. Potatoes.
2. Wheat.
3. Barley.
4. Oats.

1. Potatoes.
2. Bere crop, 10 barrels.
3. Barley.
4. Oats.

THEY plough three or four times for wheat, sow from the end of september to the middle of november. The first ploughing is not till may or june, and sometimes, as I have seen, not till july. They never sow barley till april, and often may. Pease they only sow on land which they think is not in heart for oats, and the crops miserable, as may be supposed. They sometimes burn low rushy bottoms, and sow rape on them, but not often.

No such thing as turneps among the common farmers, though they have an excellent turnep-soil. Mr. Bushe has some every year, with which he feeds his sheep.

No clover. Mr. Bushe has had it for some time, and found the greatest advantage from it. A little flax for their own use. Potatoes very generally cultivated, and take all the dung of the farm; and the poor, who raise what dung they can, have land of the farmers gratis, if they manure it well, in order to plant potatoes, which here is the most general culture of that root. The account,

Dunging 240 load	-	-	£. 1	0	0
12 barrels of seed, at 3s.	-	-	-	1	16
Planting with a plough	-	-	-	0	16
Weeding	-	-	-	0	4
Taking up	-	-	-	1	8
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Plough them in, and then trench the furrows. Crop 40 barrels. The best sort are the yellow potatoe, also the *wife* for produce. The *Turk*, which is the english *Howard*, they plant on poor land, and never bestow any dung on it, yet get great crops; but it is a very bad sort. They are beginning to cultivate the mountains; the inclosures creep up the sides gradually; they pay 2s. to 4s. an acre, but improve to be worth 8 or 10s. They do it with limestone gravel, or begin with potatoes, and dung; the gravel they carry

carry 2 miles to 3. Lime is a common manure; they lay 80 barrels an acre; it does best on light land, and gravel on stony. They burn it themselves. One barrel of culm, at 2s. burns 5 barrels of lime; 16 miles from the coal-pits. Quarring and burning 3d. a barrel. Drawing stone to the kiln 1d. or $1\frac{1}{2}$ ditto. Lime stone gravel is a very general manure, and the benefit prodigious. They have some they call lime-stone sand, which is a sort of sand-stone that breaks very easily. They lay 200 to 300 loads, 6 or 7 cwt. each, an acre. Four horses will draw 120 load a day, each load $1\frac{1}{2}$ barrel, and the distance 40 perch: this is 180 barrels, or 720 bushels, which is 24 loads, at 30 bushels each; which, I believe, is more than four horses usually perform in England, and is a proof, that giving every horse his own work expedites it. Raising and screening the sand from large stone, $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. a car load. It will last in strong heart several years, and be perceived 15. As to laying land to grass, they in general do it only by leaving the soil to cover itself with the rubbish that happens to come.

GRASS land for meadow is very valuable. About the town of Kilkenny, 3l. to 5l. an acre; and at a distance there is a custom of the little tillage-farmers hiring the crop of hay of a gentleman or farmer, and giving him, merely for the hay, 3l. to 5l. an acre, they taking all the expences upon themselves, and not having the after-grass. Dairies common on the hills on coarse grass, at 10s. or 12s. an acre. A good cow will give three gallons and an half of milk a day. As they sell all the butter-milk, they have little notion of keeping hogs, on account of dairies. In winter, the cows that give milk have hay; the others straw: all run abroad. Few grazing farms, but in the barony of Cranagh there are some. Value of a cow's hide 15s. to 18s. per cwt. Sheep are kept in small parcels; they sell store wethers two and three years old, at 16s. to 20s. in June or July. Wool about 3 to a stone. The price of wool 16s. but 20 years ago, 12s. No such thing as folding. They plough generally with 4 horses, and do above $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre a day, laying their lands on 6 foot ridges. They give their horses oats. No cutting straw into chaff, and lose all that

that of the crops. Hire of a car, a horse, and a driver, 1s. 4d. In hiring and stocking a farm, they reckon a year's rent necessary; if they have less, they never know whether they are to sink or swim.

LAND sells at 21 years purchase; not quite so well as it did 5 or 6 years ago, the rents fallen since march 1775, a seventh. County cess not a shilling an acre. Tythes compounded generally, wheat 8s. bere 7s. barley 7s. oats 4s. mowing ground 4s. pease 4s. No manufactory of consequence, but blankets are made at Kilkenny. The leases are all for 21 or 31 years, as the whole country is roman catholic. Much land is in the occupation of under tenants, who hire of middle men, but generally under old leases; when land was at its height, many hired also on speculation, but the fall of lands has put a great stop to it. A cabin and an acre lets at 3l. 3s. and if more land 40s. or 42s. an acre, the cottars have many of them a cow, and some two, and a pig and some poultry. In respect to their condition, they have their belly full of potatoes, and their children eat them all day long; all cattle lay with them in the cabins. Scarcity of fuel is the worst circumstance. All the lower classes are roman catholics. No emigrations. The general state of the poor will appear from the following account of Mr. Bushe's hay-makers; he was obliging enough to make them all appear in array, and answer to the questions I put to them. The following are the particulars they gave me.

No.	No. of souls in each cab- bin.	Acres of land.	Rent.	Cows.	Horses.	Hogs.
1.	4	$\frac{1}{2}$	1 18 0	0	0	1
2.	7	0	1 1 0	1	0	1
3.	5	2	1 10 0	0	0	1
4.	5	12	5 0 0	3	0	1
5.	6	0	1 1 0	1	0	1
6.	6	0	0 0 0	0	0	0
7.	8	8	8 0 0	1	0	0
8.	8	8	8 0 0	1	1	2
9.	10	16	16 0 0	2	2	3
10.	8	8	8 0 0	1	1	2
11.	5	6	10 10 0	2	1	0
12.	8	1	1 15 0	1	0	2
13.	2	4	6 0 0	1	1	2
14.	6	6	10 10 0	1	1	3
15.	4	5	6 0 0	2	1	2
16.	6	2	1 8 0	0	0	9
17.	5	0	1 10 0	0	0	2
18.	12	12	17 8 0	2	2	2
19.	7	12	12 0 0	2	1	1
20.	6	0	0 0 0	0	0	0
21.	10	4	6 0 0	1	1	0
22.	6	8	8 0 0	1	1	2
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	144	114		23	13	37
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Average	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{3}{4}$		1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{4}$

$6\frac{1}{2}$ souls per cabin, are a population one would not imagine could be resident in such mean habitations, but they swarm with children to the eye of the most inattentive observer. They have a practice here which much deserves attention: three, four, five, seven, &c. little farmers will take a large farm in partnership. They

They must be equal in horses, cows, and sheep, and tolerably so in other circumstances; they divide every field among themselves equally, and do all the labour of it upon their separate accounts; assisting each other mutually: they never throw the whole into one stock and divide the profit, from suspicions, I suppose, they have of one another.

I M P L E M E N T S.

A car 1l. 10s. a boarded one 2l. 2s. A plough 1l. 5s. A pair of harrows 15s. Building a labourer's cabin in the common manner 5l. Ditto, of stone and slate, 30l. For a farm complete of 50 acres, of stone and slate 100l. to add 50 acres more 30l. more. Poors firing 1l. 10s. but hedges much broken.

Mr. Bushe is very attentive in the culture of his domain; he puts his potatoes in with the plough, and finds they answer much better than the common manner, making them and turneps the preparation for barley, with which he sows clover, and upon that wheat: this is the Norfolk husbandry, and there cannot be better. It should be extended over all the arable land wherever it is practiced. He has this year a very fine crop of wheat sown upon one earth on an old lay, and no damage from the red-worm. In the spring he confines his cattle to the farm yard for making dung, and mixes it in composts with sand and lime. He has an economical practice which deserves attention. It is the stew hole in his kitchen being a perpetual lime-kiln. It is a fire kept night and day at less than no expence, for the lime more than pays the culm. It is not at all unwholesome, and the fire for culinary purposes is excellent.

JULY 11, left Kilfaine: Mr. Bushe accompanied me to Woodstock, the seat of Sir W. Fownes. From Thomastown hither is the finest ride I have yet had in Ireland. The road leaving Thomastown leads on the east side of the river, through some beautiful copse woods, which before they were cut must have had a most noble effect, with the river Nore, winding at the bottom, the country then opens somewhat, and you pass most of the way for 6 or 7 miles to Innisteague, on a declivity shelving down to the river, which takes a varied winding course, sometimes lively,

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breaking

breaking over a rocky bottom, at others still and deep under the gloom of some fine woods, which hang down the sides of steep hills. Narrow slips of meadow of a beautiful verdure in some places form the shore, and unite with cultivated fields that spread over the adjoining hills, reaching almost the mountain tops: these are large and bold, and give in general to the scenes features of great magnificence. Passed Sir John Hasler's, on the opposite side of the river, finely situated, and Mr. Nicholson's farm on this side, who has very extensive copses, which line the river. Coming in sight of Sir W. Fownes's, the scenery is striking, the road mounts the side of the hill, and commands the river at the bottom of the declivity, with groups of trees prettily scattered about, and the little borough of Inneskeague in a most picturesque situation, the whole bounded by mountains. Cross the bridge, and going through the town, take a path that leads to a small building in the woods, called Mount Sandford; it is at the top of a rocky declivity almost perpendicular, but with brush wood growing from the rocks. At the bottom is the river, which comes from the right from behind a very bold hanging wood, that seems to unite with the hill on the opposite shore: at this pass the river fills the vale, but it widens by degrees, and presents various reaches, intermixed with little tufts of trees, the bridge we passed over is half hid. Inniskeague is mixed with them, and its buildings backed by a larger wood, give variety to the scene. Opposite to the point of view there are some pretty inclosures, fringed with wood, and a line of cultivated mountain sides, with their bare tops limit the whole.

TAKING my leave of Mr. Bushe, I followed the road to Ross. Passed Woodstock, of which there is a very fine view from the top of one of the hills, the house in the centre of a sloping wood of 500 english acres, and hanging in one noble shade to the river, which flows at the bottom of a winding glen. From the same hill in front it is seen in a winding course for many miles through a great extent of inclosures, bounded by mountains. As I advanced, the views of the river Nore were very fine, till I came to Ross, where from the hill, before you go down to the ferry, is a noble

noble scene of the Barrow, a vast river flowing thro' bold shores, in some places trees on the bank half obscure it, in others it opens in large reaches, the effect equally grand and beautiful. Ships sailing up to the town, which is built on the side of a hill to the water's edge, enliven the scene not a little. The water is very deep and the navigation secure, so that ships of 700 tons may come up to the town; but these noble harbours, on the coast of Ireland, are only melancholy capabilities of commerce: it is languid and trifling. There are only four or five brigs and sloops that belong to the place.

HAVING now passed through a considerable extent of country, in which the white boys were very common, and committed many outrages, I shall here review the intelligence I received concerning them throughout the county of Kilkenny. I made many enquiries into the origin of those disturbances, and found that no such thing as a leveller, or white boy, was heard of till 1760, which was long after the landing of Thurot, or the intended expedition of M. Conflans. That no foreign coin was ever seen among them, though reports to the contrary were circulated; and in all the evidence that was taken during ten or twelve years, in which time there appeared a variety of informers, none was ever taken, whose testimony could be relied on, that ever proved any foreign interposition. Those very few, who attempted to favour it, were of the most infamous and perjured characters. All the rest, whose interest it was to make the discovery, if they had known it, and who concealed nothing else, pretended to no such knowledge. No foreign money appeared; no arms of foreign construction; no presumptive proof whatever of such a connection. They began in Tipperary, and were owing to some inclosures of commons, which they threw down, levelling the ditches; and were first known by the name of levellers. After that, they begun with the tythe-proctors, (who are men that hire tythes of the rectors) and these proctors either screwed the cottars up to the utmost shilling, or re-let the tythes to such as did it. It was a common practice with them to go in parties about the country, swearing many to be true to them, and forcing them to join, by menaces, which

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they

they very often carried into execution. At last they set up to be general redressers of grievances—punished all obnoxious persons who advanced the value of lands, or hired farms over their heads and having taken the administration of justice into their own hands, were not very exact in the distribution of it. Forced masters to release their apprentices, carried off the daughters of rich farmers, ravished them into marriages, of which four instances happened in a fortnight. They levied sums of money on the middling and lower farmers, in order to support their cause, by paying attornies, &c. in defending prosecutions against them; and many of them subsisted for some years without work, supported by these contributions. Sometimes they committed several considerable robberies, breaking into houses and taking the money, under pretence of redressing grievances. In the course of these outrages, they burnt several houses, and destroyed the whole substance of men obnoxious to them. The barbarities they committed were shocking. One of their usual punishments (and by no means the most severe) was taking people out of their beds, carrying them naked in winter, on horse-back, for some distance, and burying them up to their chin in a hole filled with briars, not forgetting to cut off one of their ears. In this manner the evil existed for eight or ten years, during which time the gentlemen of the country took some measures to quell them. Many of the magistrates were active in apprehending them; but the want of evidence prevented punishments for many of those who even suffered by them, had not spirit to prosecute. The gentlemen of the country had frequent expeditions to discover them in arms; but their intelligence was so uncommonly good by their influence over the common people, that not one party that ever went out in quest of them was successful. Government offered large rewards for informations, which brought a few every year to the gallows, without any radical cure for the evil. The reason why it was not more effective was, the necessity of any person that gave evidence against them, quitting their houses and country, or remaining exposed to their resentment. At last their violence arose to a height which brought on their suppression. The popish inhabitants of Ballyragget, six miles from

from Kilkenny, were the first of the lower people who dared openly to associate against them; they threatened destruction to the town, gave notice that they would attack it, were as good as their word, came 200 strong, drew up before a house in which were 15 armed men, and fired in at the windows: the 15 men handled their arms so well, that in a few rounds they killed 40 or 50. They fled immediately, and ever after left Ballyragget in peace—indeed they have never been resisted at all, without shewing a great want of both spirit and discipline. It should, however, be observed, that they had but very few arms, those in bad order, and no cartridges. Soon after this they attacked the house of Mr. Power, in Tipperary, the history of which is well known. His murder spirited up the gentlemen to exert themselves in suppressing the evil, especially in raising subscriptions to give private rewards to whoever would give evidence or information concerning them. The private distribution had much more effect than larger sums which required a public declaration; and government giving rewards to those who resisted them, without having previously promised it, had likewise some effect. Laws were passed for punishing all who assembled, and (what may have a great effect) for recompensing, at the expence of the county or barony, all persons who suffered by their outrages. In consequence of this general exertion, above twenty were capitally convicted, and most of them executed; and the goals of this and the three neighbouring counties, Carlow, Tipperary, and Queen's-county, have many in them, whose trials are put off till next assizes, and against whom sufficient evidence for conviction, it is supposed, will appear. Since this all has been quiet, and no outrages have been committed: but before I quit the subject, it is proper to remark that what coincided very much to abate the evil, was the fall in the price of lands, which has taken place lately. This is considerable, and has much lessened the evil of hiring farms over the heads of one another; perhaps also the tythe-proctors have not been quite so severe in their extortions: but this observation is by no means general; for in many places tythes yet continue to be levied, with all those circumstances which originally raised the evil.

FROM

FROM Ross took the road towards Wexford, and found upon enquiry that I was got into quite a different country from what I had left, the soil not near so high let, for several miles it is from 5s. to 15s. and is in general dry sound land. This soil, so excellent in the turnep-culture, never lets at its real value in unimproved countries: it is the introduction of turneps alone that ascertains that value. In 8 or 9 miles I found some rising to 20s. The course: 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Barley. 7. Oats. With such management, no wonder the soil is low rented. There is a great quantity of rough land overrun with furze (*ulex europæus*). They burn them here, and I remarked uncommon quantities of bog-wood at the doors of the cabbins: yet their turf-grounds are rather boggy bottoms than bogs.

LAI'D at Taghmon, at as good an inn as the appearance of the place could allow of, though I was told it was very good. There was a bed on which I rested in my cloaths, but the stable had neither rack nor manger. I should have gone on to Wexford, but found that Mr. Neville, member for that town, to whom I had a letter of recommendation in order to procure intelligence concerning the baronies of Bargy and Forth, was in England; I therefore determined to turn off here, and make a circuit through them to get to Wexford. The landlord seemed to know something of the country. I asked him what gentlemen were in it that took any pleasure in husbandry: he named several, and from his accounts I determined a call on Mr. Nun, at St. Margaret's.

JULY 12th, sallied from my inn, which would have made a very passable castle of enchantment in the eyes of Don Quixote, in search of adventures in these noted baronies, of which I had heard so much. They were completely peopled by Strongbow; and from having retained a sort of saxon language peculiar to themselves, without any of them understanding the irish, in all probability the country was at that time uninhabited or desolated. I had been told that they were infinitely more industrious and better farmers than in any other part of Ireland, and this account

was

was confirmed to me by several common irish farmers I met with upon the road.—It was not long before I was in the barony of Bargie, and I was much surpris'd to see no great appearance of any thing better than common. In one respect, I remarked the vilest husbandry, which was exhausting the land by successive corn crops, and then leaving it to cover itself with weeds, and grass by degrees : for it is to be observed, that I have not seen, in Wexford, any of that fine land I have mentioned so often, which, if thrown by in this manner, is almost immediately covered with white clover. Land, I found, let five or six miles from Taghmon, from 10s. to 20s. an acre ; they have no fallow, but sow oats and barley, and beans and pease, (which they call black corn) in succession for many years, and without any such practice as hoeing. And though the land is light, dry and sound, not a turnep is sown ; so that, in 21 miles, I saw not a single fallow for them. Sowing beans and pease is, however, common, and they have farther a notion that doing so refreshes the land. I saw no beans in Ireland till I came here. They told me their crops were : Barley and oats 6 to 12 barrels. Beans 8 to 10 barrels. They use both marle and lime ; of the former they lay 400 car loads per acre, and it lasts 12 crops. Much of their wheat is sown on lays, marled and dunged, and the crops were very good. Potatoes not the food of the people the year through, as in other parts of Ireland ; they live on them only in the winter, and have oatmeal the rest of the year. Barley is the crop that succeeds them.

ADVANCING farther I had fresh accounts.—Wheat they sow on lays, with only one ploughing, and get from 7 to 10 barrels an acre ; and of oats and barley on good land sometimes so high as 15 to 17 barrels. They lime much, and usually take but four or five crops of corn running, upon which they seemed to pride themselves much, as being good farmers. Farms in Bargie generally from 40 to 100 acres. Here I understood there was a part of the barony of Shelmal inhabited by quakers, rich men and good farmers. A farmer I talked to said of them :—*the quakers be very cunning, and the devil a bad acre of land will they hire.* From this account I wished for a recommendation to one of these sagacious

sagacious friends. I observed all the way I went, that the cabbins were generally much better than any I had seen in Ireland: large ones, with two or three rooms, in good order and repair, all with windows and chimnies and little styies, for their pigs and cattle. As well built as common in England.

ENTERING Forth I did not perceive any difference, but the soil is a reddish good loam without stones. I went to St. Margaret's, and introduced myself to Colonel Nun, who gave me the following particulars, with the assistance of a neighbouring farmer. Barony of Forth and Bargie farms generally 20 to 80 acres; but many of them hired in partnership, and when the children marry are subdivided into smaller portions. Rent of the two baronies on an average a guinea. The courses:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Potatoes. | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1. \text{ Summer fallow.} \\ 2. \text{ Barley.} \\ 3. \text{ Beans.} \\ 4. \text{ Oats.} \\ 5. \text{ Grasses.} \end{array} \right.$ | 1. Beans on lay. |
| 2. Flax or barley. | | 2. Barley. |
| 3. Leave it for a fod, | | 3. Oats. |
| but most sow clover | | 4. Barley. |
| and grasses. | | 5. Clover or trefoile,
for 2, 3, or 4 years. |
1. Fallow and marle. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Oats.
5. Barley. 6. Clover, &c.

For wheat they plough but once on the lay, harrow in the seed and shovel the furrows; sow in october one-half to three-fourths of a barrel: some use spring wheat sown in march. The crop generally is 10 to 20 barrels. For barley, which is their principal crop, they plough twice; sow one barrel and an half, get 10 to 15 barrels an acre. For oats they plough but once, sow one barrel and an half, and get 10 or 12 barrels an acre. For pease or beans they plough but once, sow many beans on a lay on one ploughing, one barrel and an half per acre; chopping and dressing the clods fine, get 5 to 20 barrels an acre, and sow barley after it. No turneps among the common farmers, though much of their land is fine dry and sound, but some is very wet.

FLAX enough for their own use. Potatoes they have of late began to put in with the plough, but in common they are in the trenching way. Their crops are very good. Marle is very much used;

used : it is a blue fort. They lay large quantities on the sod, let it lie a year or two before they plough it up, which they find better than ploughing it directly. They marle the same land often ; they drain only with open cuts, no hollow ones done.

CATTLE very little attended to : only a cow or two for the use of their families, and a few sheep ; but they keep a great many pigs. All that live near the sea, turn their pigs to the shore for fish, sea-weed, &c. Manure with sea-weed, which they lay on for barley ; some fresh from the sea, others lay it in heaps to rot, and many reckon it best fresh. Ploughing all with horses, four in a plough ; lay their lands round to shoot off the water. In ploughing grafs for corn, they leave one-third of every ridge unploughed in the middle, but covered up with the furrows, in order for tilling the year following, and think they get the best crops there. Execrable !

LAND sells from 22 to 25 years purchase ; nor have rents fallen at all rather the contrary. County cess 8d. an acre. Tythes either gathered or appraised every year. Leases generally three lives, or 31 years. Carry their corn to Wexford. The people increase prodigiously. Rent of a cabin and an acre 3l. generally have a cow and pigs, and plenty of poultry. Religion generally catholic. Many lads go to Newfoundland in may, and come home in october, and bring from 15l. to 24l. pay 3l. passage out, and 1l. 10s. home. Poors' firing sod, furze, and fern, coals very scarce. Building a cottage 5l. to 7l. to a farm of 50 acres 150l.

THE people are uncommonly industrious, and a most quiet race—in 15 or 20 years there is no such thing as a robbery. The little farmers live very comfortably and happily, and many of them worth several hundred pounds. They are exceedingly attentive in getting mould out of the ditches and banks, to mix a little dung with it, and spread it on their land.

PARTICULARS of a farm :

70 acres. 16 cows, 4 to each partner. 20 horses, each 5. 80 sheep.
60 swine. Stock worth 300l. 4 families.

And this farm by old accounts has had 90 crops of corn without a fallow or grafs, in succession, but they manure with sea-weed and sea-sand every year. They are always on the watch for sea-weed ; and when the tide comes in, if it is in the middle of the night, they go out with their cars, and get all they can. Some of the fields are so covered with great stone rocks, that one would think it impossible to plough them, but they manage it by attention.

THEY all speak a broken faxon language, and not one in an hundred knows any thing of irish. They are evidently a distinct people ; and I could not but remark, their features and cast of countenance varied very much from the common native irish. The girls and women are handsomer, having much better features and complexions. Indeed the

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women,

women, among the lower classes in general in Ireland, are as ugly as the women of fashion are handsome. Their industry, as I have mentioned in several particulars, is superior to their neighbours; and their better living and habitations are also distinctions not to be forgotten. The poor have all barley-bread and pork, herrings, &c. and potatoes. On the coast a considerable fishery of herrings: every creek has four or five boats—none barreled by the people, but the merchants of Wexford barrel them for the West Indies.

FROM St. Margaret's I took the road to Wexford, the whole way through the barony of Forth. I saw nothing but straw hats for men as well as women, and found afterwards that they were worn through the whole county, and they give a comic appearance to every group one meets. Laid at the King's Arms at Wexford, a very clean and good inn. There are 14 or 15 small ships belonging to this port, but a bar at the mouth of the harbour prevents large ones from coming in.

JULY 13th, Crossed the harbour in a ferry-boat, in order to take the lower road to Gowry. Passed over much sandy land by the sea side, covered with fern; large tracts of it, and divided into inclosures, as if it had been cultivated. Near the town I observed some heaps of sea-weed rotting for manure. At the 60th mile stone large sandy tracts, covered with furze and fern. As profitable land for improvement as any I have seen; lets for 6s. or 7s. an acre, but there is much other land at 15s.

THEIR course here is: 1. Oats, 7 or 8 barrels. 2. Barley, 6 ditto. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. 5. Clover and rye-grass 3 to 6 years. Towards Wells, and from thence to Gowry, land is higher, much of it at 20s. and some higher still.

Got to Lord Courtown's, who with an attention highly flattering, took every means to have me well informed. His seat at Courtown is a very agreeable place, and in some respects a very singular one; for the house is within 600 yards of the sea, and yet it is almost buried in fine woods, which from their growth and foliage, shew no aversion to their neighbour, who is so often pernicious to all their brethren. His views of the sea are fine, every where broken by wood, or hilly varied ground. All his environs consist of undulating lands, which give a pleasing variety to the scene: a river enters his garden, and pursuing for some distance a sequestered course, shaded on one side by a rocky bank well wooded, and on the other by lofty trees, with a very agreeable walk under them, pours itself into the sea at a small distance from the house.

LORD Courtown is a very good farmer. The first field of turneps I saw in Ireland was here, and he was thinning and weeding them with boys, in order to hoe them with the more effect, the land in order, well dunged, and the plants forward and flourishing. He generally has 7 or 8 acres, feeds his cattle with them in a farm-yard, well littered with
fern

fern and straw, and sows barley after, getting very fine crops. His sandy lands by the coast he marles richly, and with such effect that his crops are very great. The finest wheat I have seen yet in Ireland was on this sand. Some of his Lordship's fields are wet from a stratum of clay; these he throws into lands gently arched, lays them down so, and finds them sound enough for winter feeding without poaching, whereas when flat, they are quite kneaded if any cattle go into them. On this clay soil he finds the best manure is sea-sand and shingle from the beach.

JULY 14, Sunday—to church, and was surprised to find a large congregation: this is not often the case in Ireland out of a mass house.—Gallop on the strand; it is a fine firm beautiful sand for miles. The paddies were swimming their horses in the sea to cure the mange, or keep them in health.

THE following particulars of the husbandry of the neighbourhood his Lordship brother gave me.

AT Courtown, and around Gowry, farms in general small: but from 40 or 50 to 2 or 3000 acres, yet 200 acres are a large one, but very many small of 30 to 50. The soil is a skirting of sand against the sea, the rest is gravel and gravelly loam: also a thin stratum of loam on a yellow very miserable clay, 12 inches thick, and under it universally a fine blue marle of great depth. Rents rise from 10s. to 30s. average 15s. to 20s. and of the whole county 15s. A good deal of mountain, which in its wild state does not let for more than 3s. The little farmers improve it much by fallow and lime, which they bring from Carlow, 25 miles. When improved, it is worth 16s. an acre, and they pay that for it at the expiration of the lease.

THEIR courses are: 1. Potatoes. 2. Barley, yielding 10 or 12 barrels. 3. Oats, the produce 10 or 12: and then more crops of oats, or barley and oats, till the soil is exhausted, when they leave it to turf itself, which it will not do under 10 or 15 years. Also, 1. Summer fallow. 2. Wheat, 7 barrels; and then spring-corn crops, till the land is exhausted. No pease or beans sown. Not a turnep in the country among common farmers, though the finest sands and grounds imaginable for them: nor clover. A little flax is sown, generally after potatoes, and the culture of it increases gradually.

POTATOES in general put in in the common manner; but I heard of one or two farmers, who on dry ground plant them with the plough: always dung or pare and burn; no hiring of land for them, only in their own gardens and little fields; they do not often raise more than enough for half a year, buying for the other half. It is not a sheep country, and no such thing as folding known.

LIME is not used, except in the mountains, from Carlow: but marle is very general, a good blue sort, which they spread amply on the sod, and plough it for wheat. The good farmers take three crops upon it,

but the little ones will take 8 or 10 as long as the land will yield any thing. The deeper they dig the marle, the better it is. They dairy much here, some having 20 cows for butter chiefly. It has been a common idea, that one good cow will make 1 cwt. of butter at 42s. and 1 cwt of cheese 25s. and rear her calf. They all keep many pigs, and the more upon account of their dairies. Some calves are fattened for Dublin market, one will suck two cows, and be worth 4l. at 3 months old. No large flocks of sheep, but most of the farmers have a few; generally wethers bought in and sold out every year. Give them hay in bad weather. 3 fleeces to a stone of wool, the present price 16s. Between 30 and 40 years ago 3s. a stone; and 20 years ago 10s. to 11s. Tillage is performed all with horses, 4 in a plough, and do half an acre a day. All their chaff is lost in winnowing their corn in the fields. Hire of a car 1s. In hiring and stocking farms, they will take them with scarce any thing but a few cows and horses, yet they pay their rents very well, and few of them fail. Land, at rack rent, sells at 20 years purchase, but within these 10 years 22 or 23. Rents have been rising for 15 years: they have not fallen of late years as in other parts of Ireland, though in some places are beginning.

TYTHES are valued every year, and the 10th taken as a composition, wheat at 18s. a barrel. Barley 8s. Oats 6s. The 10th lamb 2s. 6d. No tea in the labourers cabins, but in those of little farmers they have it, and it increases much. Leases generally 3 lives to protestants, and 31 years to catholics. The system of middle men going out—none in new let lands.

BARLEY carried to Wexford for exportation, and wheat to Dublin by means of bounty on inland carriage. The people increase considerably. Rent of a cabin with an acre 40s. if more added 20s. an acre. All keep cows, and generally a horse and a pig or two, with plenty of poultry reared on potatoes.—They live on oat-cakes when potatoes are not in season; the little farmers that have 40 or 50 acres, eat a good deal of meat; fish is a great article with the poor, particularly herrings and cod. In general much improving, and more industrious than formerly. In about four years, 40 or 50 persons emigrated to America. They are beginning to improve mountain and bog, which from being worth nothing before, now let at above 20s. an acre. No farms hired in partnership.

THE white boys were violent for about three months in 1775, chiefly from Kilkenny and Carlow, but suppressed immediately by the spirited associations of the gentlemen. They were heard of in the south under other names before Thurot or Conflans. Poors' firing, turf seven miles off; 20 kish at 1s. 6d. a good stock; in common it may be reckoned 1l. 1s. Building a cabin 6l. to 7l. 7s. Of stone and slate 20l. Ditto for a farm of 50 acres, stone and slate, 25l. Crammed fowls with potatoes
and

and oatmeal and milk 2s. to 2s. 6d. each. Since these particulars were taken at Courtown his Lordship, by letter, has favoured me with the following, from an intelligent farmer.

COURSE OF CROPS.

1. WHEAT.

NUMBER of ploughings, four before sowing. First in november. Second in april, by cros cutting. In june harrow it down well, then put on your manure. Third ploughing in july; harrow it down again. Fourth ditto in august, which will leave it prepared for sowing. Seed to the acre, fourteen stone. Crop, at a medium, eight barrels.

2. BARLEY.

Two ploughings. First in november. Second at the time you sow, having first cros harrowed. Seed to the acre, fifteen stone. Crop, nine barrels.

3. OATS.

Most farmers plough but once. Seed, 22 stone. Crop, 9 barrels.

FOR POTATOES.

LET your ground lie ploughed all winter; to every acre put 500 load of dung. Seed, eight barrels. Crop, 80 ditto. Price, per barrel, 5s. Use of lime very profitable on dry ground; quantity, per acre, from 40 to 50 barrels.

COWS' PRODUCE.

ONE cow will give ten quarts of milk a day; will produce one hundred of butter. Profit, three pound.

SHEEP.

Two acres will support one collop, or eight ewes. Each sheep

a lamb, at 5s. each	—	—	—	£. 2 0 0
Wool from the eight sheep, one stone, at	—	—	—	0 17 0
				<hr/>
				2 17 0
Two acres, at 20s. per acre	—	—	—	2 0 0
				<hr/>
Profit on eight sheep, at an average,	—	—	—	£. 0 17 0
Proportion of the rise of labour is not more than 2d. per day.				

PARTICULARS of a FARM.

Arable 20 acres, 10 of barley, 4 of wheat, 6 of oats. Pasture 67 acres. Meadow 13 ditto.—Total 100 acres.—Stock, 24 Cows, 8 horses, 7 two-year old heifers, 4 year old ditto, and four calves.—Rent 100l. Three Labourers.

MARLE:

MARLE.

QUANTITY, per acre, on stiff clay ground, from 5 to 600 load, of about 600 weight; on dry gravelly ground, from 800 to 1000 ditto, according to the soil, will last 40 years with management.

JULY 15th, leaving Courtown, took the Arklow road; passed a finely wooded park of Mr. Rams, and a various country with some good corn in it. Flat lands by the coast let very high, and mountain at 6s. or 7s. an acre, and some at 8s. or 10s. Passed to Wicklow, prettily situated on the sea, and from Newrybridge walked to see Mr. Tye's, which is a neat farm well wooded, with a river running through the fields.

REACHED in the evening Mount Kennedy, the seat of Gen. Cunningham, who fortunately proved to me an instructor as assiduous as he is able. He is in the midst of a country almost all his own, for he has 10,000 Irish acres here. His domain, and the grounds about it, are very beautiful, not a level can be seen; every spot is tossed about in a variety of hill and dale. In the middle of the lawn is one of the greatest natural curiosities in the kingdom; an immense arbutus tree unfortunately blown down, but yet vegetating, one branch, which parts from the body near the ground, and afterwards divides into many large branches, is 6 feet 2 inches in circumference. The general buried part of the stem as it laid, and it is from several branches throwing out fine young shoots: it is a most venerable remnant. Killarney, the region of the Arbutus, boasts of no such tree as this.

JULY 16th, rode in the morning to Drum; a large extent of mountains, and wood, on the general's estate. It is a very noble scenery; a vast rocky glen; one side bare rocks to an immense height, hanging in a thousand whimsical, yet frightful, forms, with vast fragments tumbled from them, and lying in romantic confusion; the other a fine mountain side covered with shrubby wood. This wild pass leads to the bottom of an amphitheatre of mountain, which exhibits a very noble scenery. To the right is an immense sweep of mountain completely wooded, taken as a single object it is a most magnificent one, but its forms are picturesque in the highest degree; great projections of hill, with glens behind all wooded, have a noble effect. Every feature of the whole view is great, and unites to form a scene of natural magnificence. From hence a riding is cut through the hanging wood, which rises to a central spot, where the general has cleared away the rubbish from under the wood, and made a beautiful waving lawn with many oaks and hollies scattered about it; here he has built a cottage, a pretty whimsical oval room, from the windows of which are three views, one of distant rich lands opening to the sea, one upon a great mountain, and a third upon a part of the lawn. It is well placed and forms upon the whole a most agreeable retreat.

treat. The following particulars of agriculture I had from General Cunningham, who took every means of having me well informed

ABOUT Mount Kennedy the country is inclosed within various mountains and high lands; farms are generally very small, from 20 acres to 100, except in mountainous tracts, where they are larger, some from 300 to 600 acres. The soil is in general a dry sound gravel, hanging to the south east, and protected by mountains from the north west. The rent, on an average, from 30s. to 50s. not mountain, which is usually 8s. or 10s. The skirt of the whole county, from the mountain down to the sea, is from 30s. to 50s. an acre, being a sixth of it. One third of it, uncultivated and uninhabited, lets for not more than 6d. an acre. Another third lets for 20s. The remaining sixth at 9s.—Average of the whole 15s. an acre.

THE courses of crops are: 1. Potatoes; all the dung of the country used for them. 2. Wheat; sow one barrel, and get on an average 8 barrels.—All the furrows shovelled. 3. Oats; sow near 2, and get 10 barrels. 4. Oats. 5. Barley; sow $\frac{1}{2}$ and get 10, and then leave it for lay for 5 years, never sowing any grass seeds. It produces nothing at all for three years, but after that white clover comes slowly.

BARLEY has been more cultivated upon account of the quantity of ale and beer which is brewed here, being the common beverage through the county, and more famous for it than any other. The barrel, 2-thirds of a hoghead, sells at 40s. Malt malted here 14s. a barrel; the barley 10s. 6d.

ANOTHER course: 1. Marle, or lime-stone gravel, on the lay, 1600 loads an acre, and sow barley. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats or barley. 4. Oats or ditto, till left to lay again. Gravelling they generally consider as a right to six or eight crops. Their wheat after potatoes they sow so late as christmas.

VERY few pease, and no beans, nor any rape; and not a turnep, though saw great tracts perfectly adopted to that crop. They sow also very little of flax, having no such manufacture. Their potatoes they universally plant on an old lay; they spread their dung in beds for the trenching way, none under the plough. Plant 8 to 10 barrels on an acre, laid at 6 inches from one another. When the plants are about an inch or two high, they cover them a second time from the trenches. They hand weed them. No hiring land of farmers for it, but all on their own account.

THERE are many copses on the sides of mountains of birch, oak, ash, and holly, which are cut generally at 25 years growth for poles for building cabbins; the bark for tan, and the smaller branches for charcoal. They are worth from 12l. to 25l. an acre. Many of them on very steep sides of mountains, and to a great height; but no great oak woods, since the Shillaly woods were cut down about 12 years ago.

THERE are considerable tracts of mountain land improved; if dry heath land, they plough, cross plough, burn, and then sow rye, getting 8 bar-

rels, after which they have oats, and crop it as long as it will produce. Unimproved mountain, consisting of rock, furze, (*ulex europæus*) fern, (*pteris aquilina*) &c. but dry, lets at 8s. an acre, at which rent they have it for 31 years. The improvement is reckoned very profitable. No folding sheep: there is not such a thing as a hurdle known. They pare and burn the mountain as the only way to improve, though contrary to an absurd act of parliament against it.

LIME they use in very small quantities, and no wonder, for it is the Sutton stone they bring from the hill of Howth to Wicklow, where it is burnt, and the common farmers bring it from thence at the expence of 2s. 6d. the statute barrel of 32 gallons. They lay from 20 to 60 on an acre, chiefly on mountain ground. Grey marle, with lime-stone gravel in strata, abound all over the country, with other strata of sand, all which have an effervescence with acids, and in digging they mix together, and prove of infinite benefit to their fields.

VERY few dairies, so that they make scarce any butter. Their cows are subservient to their lamb suckling, and leave them free only in summer, when they fat calves for Dublin market. Four or five quarts of milk at a meal is the common quantity. In the winter they have hay, but only in hard weather. No grazing of oxen. As to sheep their system is particular; it is all suckling lambs for Dublin market.

GENERAL Cunningham carried me to a farmer who is reckoned the most able in that business of any in the country, and the following is the account he gave me of his management. He breeds his own lambs from a stock partly bought in every year. The rams he puts to the ewes the middle of may, in order to have them lamb at michaelmas, or a little after. They are left in the field for a week, and then taken into the house. The ewes are brought to suckle them twice a day in general; but three or four times, while young; they have cows milk given them by women from their mouths, squirted down the lambs throats, to the quantity of a *noggin* a day at first, and rises to $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 2. A *noggin* is one-eighth of a quart. They keep them till three weeks before christmas, and then begin to sell them. Their ewes are kept on grafs only, unless in bad weather, when they have hay. He sells 75 lambs annually, from a stock of 80 rams and ewes, at 33s. on an average, some up to 40s. for these lambs he has 8 cows, 5 of them in full milk, and if he has not cows enough, buys in for the purpose. The ewes are bought in at 9s. each in july, and some old ones are sold every year at 6s. 14 acres of grafs will keep 80 sheep until the stubbles are ready for them.

In this system much depends on having them take the ram in proper time for the Dublin market. In order to accomplish this seemingly difficult business, they treat the ladies with a cup of generous Wicklow ale, and drive them about the field, in order to create the proper ferment between their blood and the ale, and then at the critical moment let in the gentlemen. Some managers more attentive than common, treat them with
claret

claret instead of ale : perhaps the swarms of children in the cabbins are owing to the prolific quality of this excellent ale of Wicklow.

THE wool of the country is all wrought up by the inhabitants, spun, combed, and wove into flannel and frizes, and to such an extent, that the mountain farmers pay half their rents by this manufacture. They also buy much, not having enough of their own : it is all done by the smallest farmers going through the whole manufacture employing cottars in it. By spinning, a woman can earn 3d. a day. Wool now 14s. to 17s. the stone of 16lb. 20 years ago 11s. no rot among the sheep. On the mountains many goats are kept for the milk, which is drank very much by people from Dublin, who take lodgings for drinking goats whey. Kids flesh reckoned very fine.

THEY plough with both horses and bullocks : two horses and two bullocks, and one bullock and three horses, and do from one-half to three-fourths of an acre a day. Stir 5 inches deep. Very few or no oats given to horses. Chaff all thrown away. They work their draught oxen in winter on straw. Hire of a car, a horse, and a driver, 1s. 6d. a day. With 4 cows, 2 horses, a yearling, and 20 sheep, General Cunningham has had tenants professedly take 50 acres of land.

LAND sells at rack rent for 18 to 21 years purchase ; 5 or 6 years ago it was at 22. Rents are fallen in the same time 4s. in the pound. Tythes are paid by composition ; the crops are viewed, and they agree for one year. An acre of wheat 10s. Barley 4s. Oats 4s. No tea in the cabbins on the mountains, but in the towns they have it. Leases are three lives, or 31 years ; a vast proportion re-let 3 or 4 deep. The people increase much. Rent of a cabin in a village, with a very small garden, 2l. 2s. to 3l. if not in a village it is less. On a mountain 50s. to 3l. for a cabin and 5 acres, but generally have a common pasture for their cows, &c. Farms much taken in the mountains by partnership ; 3 or 4 will take 100 acres, and divide among themselves as in Kilkenny. Lower people all roman catholics. No emigrations. No white boys.

THEY have plenty of potatoes ; all keep a cow, some more ; all a pig or more, and poultry of every kind. Their fuel is turf from the mountains ; they are universal pilferers of every thing they can lay their hands on : great lyars, but full of quickness and sagacity, and grateful to excess.

KISH of turf 10d. delivered. Oak *ribberies* (spars) for cabbins 4s. 6d. a dozen. Building a cabin 25 feet long, 14 feet wide, with a door and 2 windows, 5l. 10s. Ditto stone and slate 20l. Ditto farm house and offices for 50 acres, of stone and slate 200l.

Expences and produce of General Cunningham's farm.

Rent	- - - - -	£. 375	0	0
Labour	- - - - -	150	0	0
Wear and tear	- - - - -	30	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£. 555	0	0
		<hr/>		
48 acres mown, at 10 loads an acre, at 10s.	- - -	£. 240	0	0
5 acres of wheat 10 Barrels, at 11. 1s.	- - -	52	10	0
10 — barley 14 ditto, at 10s. 6d.	- - -	73	10	0
17 — oats 13 ditto, at 10s.	- - -	110	10	0
2 — pease 9 ditto, at 10s.	- - -	9	0	0
10 — fundries, at 5l.	- - -	50	0	0
70 sheep at 15s.	- - -	52	10	0
Swine	- - -	5	0	0
10 young cattle 40s.	- - -	20	0	0
16 horses, 36 weeks, at 2s. 6d.	- - -	72	0	0
5 Oxen, ditto 2s. 6d.	- - -	22	10	0
		<hr/>		
		£. 707	10	0
		<hr/>		

IN two acres of land summer-fallowed for wheat, the general was persuaded not to sow it, as the red-worm would infallibly destroy the crop, he therefore kept it for barley, but manured it with lime, 90 barrels an acre at 21d $\frac{1}{2}$ each, from the hill of Howth in august; the barley was eaten notwithstanding the lime; it was a very poor crop, and in some places none at all. Sowed the stubble with pease, which I saw, and were very fine. The general tried a very extraordinary experiment upon breaking up an old mossy grass lay in an orchard, and laying it down again without having any corn: it was manured with plenty of sand, then ploughed it up in august; directly cross-ploughed it; harrowed it thoroughly, and threw about 20 barrels of lime an acre; burnt the roots, weeds, and tufts of grass, spread the ashes, harrowed it, and upon that, about the beginning of september, sowed hay seeds. This was done to escape the trouble of a course of tillage among trees. The success was as great as possible; I saw the crop of hay mown, and it is not less than 16 loads an acre. This is a system which in many cases would be of the greatest use in reviving old hide-bound pastures without the trouble of a course of tillage. It should, however, be observed, that the climate of Ireland is peculiarly favourable to laying land to grass at that season, for it grows luxuriantly quite till christmas.

ANOTHER instance of this natural tendency of the soil to grass, is a trial the general accidentally made. He had a small field under turneps, which he hoed well, and were a fine crop; upon being drawn
to

to feed the plough bullocks with, he found much grafs upon the land, fo much, that it induced him to let it ftand, and the rather as it was laid very flat and fmooth with the turneps, he rolled in fome grafs feeds, and it turned out a very fine meadow. He was the firft who fowed red clover here, and is not yet followed by the farmers. He encouraged his tenants to lime, and lends them money for it. Much land is laid to grafs at Mount Kennedy, and all of it done in a perfect manner, the furface laid completely fmooth, without the leaft fign of a furrow, and the graffes luxuriant; all manured richly with gravel and marle.

I SAW two large compoft dunghills turning over and mixing, a fight not common in Ireland. It pleafed me more than the fight of a palace would have done. The general's crops I found all exceedingly fine, one field of oats the beft I had feen in Ireland.

JULY 17th.—Took my leave of General Cunninghame, and went thro' the Glen of the downs in my way to Powerscourt. The Glen is a pafs between two vaft ridges of mountains covered with wood, which have a very noble effect, the vale is no wider than to admit the road, a fmall gurgling river almoft by its fide, and narrow flips of rocky and shrubby ground which parts them: in the front all efcape feems denied by an immense conical mountain which rife out of the Glen, and feems to fill it up. The fcenery is of a moft magnificent character. On the top of the ridge to the right Mr. La Touche has a banqueting room. Paffing from this fublime fcene, the road leads through chearful grounds all under corn, rifing and falling to the eye, and then to a vale of charming verdure broken into inclofures, and bounded by two rocky mountains, diftant darker mountains filling up the fcene in front: this whole ride is interefting, for within a mile and an half of Tinnyhinch (the inn to which I was directed) you come to a delicious view on the right, a fmall vale opening to the fea, bounded by mountains, whofe dark fhade forms a perfect contraft to the extreme beauty and lively verdure of the lower fcene, confifting of gently fwelling lawns rifing from each other, with groups of trees between, and the whole fo prettily fcattered with white farms, as to add every idea of chearfulnefs. Kept on towards Powerscourt, which prefently came in view from the edge of a declivity. You look full upon the houfe, which appears to be in the moft beautiful fituation in the world, on the fide of a mountain, half way between its bare top, and an irriguous vale at its foot. In front, and fpreading among woods on either fide, is a lawn whofe furface is beautifully varied in gentle declivities, hanging to a winding river.

LOWERING the hill the fcenery is yet more agreeable, the near inclofures are margined with trees, through whofe open branches are feen whole fields of the moft lively verdure. The trees gather into groups, and the lawn fwells into gentle inequalities, while the river winding beneath renders the whole truly pleafing.

BREAKFASTED at the inn at Tinnyhinch, and then drove to the park to see the water-fall. The park itself is fine; you enter it between two vast masses of mountain, covered with wood, forming a vale scattered with trees, through which flows a river on a broken rocky channel: you follow this vale till it is lost in a most uncommon manner, the ridges of mountain closing, form one great amphitheatre of wood, from the top of which, at the height of many hundred feet, bursts the water from a rock, and tumbling down the side of a very large one, forms a scene singularly beautiful. At the bottom is a spot of velvet turf, from which rises a clump of oaks, and through their stems, branches, and leaves, the falling water is seen as a back ground with an effect more picturesque than can be well imagined; these few trees, and this little lawn, give the finishing to the scene. The water falls behind some large fragments of rock, and turns to the left, down a stony channel, under the shade of a wood.

RETURNING to Tinnyhinch, I went to Inniskerry, and gained by this detour in my return to go to the Dargle, a beautiful view which I should otherwise have lost; the road runs on the edge of a declivity, from whence there is a most pleasing prospect of the river's course through the vale, and the wood of Powers court, which here appear in large masses of dark shade, the whole bounded by mountains. Turn to the left into the private road that leads to the Dargle, and presently gives a specimen of what is to be expected by a romantic glen of wood, where the high lands almost lock into each other, and leave scarce a passage for the river at bottom, which rages, as if with difficulty forcing its way. It is topped by a high mountain, and in front you catch a beautiful plat of inclosures bounded by the sea. Enter the Dargle, which is the name of a Glen near a mile long. Come presently to one of the finest ranges of wood I have any where seen: it is a narrow glen or vale formed by the sides of two opposite mountains; the whole thickly spread with oak wood, at the bottom (and the depth is immense), it is narrowed to the mere channel of the river, which rather tumbles from rock to rock than runs. The extent of wood that hangs to the eye in every direction is great, the depth of the precipice on which you stand immense, which with the roar of the water at bottom forms a scene truly interesting. In less than a quarter of a mile, the road passing through the wood leads to another point of view to the right. It is the crown of a vast projecting rock, from which you look down a precipice absolutely perpendicular, and many hundred feet deep upon the torrent at the bottom, which finds its noisy way over large fragments of rock. The point of view is a great projection of the mountain on this side, answered by a concave of the opposite, so that you command the Glen both to the right and left: it exhibits on both, immense sheets of forest, which have a most magnificent appearance. Beyond the wood, to the right, are some inclosures hanging

hanging on the side of a hill, crowned by a mountain. I knew not how to leave so interesting a spot, the impressions raised by it are strong. The solemnity of such an extent of wood unbroken by any intervening objects, and the whole hanging over declivities is alone great; but to this the addition of a constant roar of falling water, either quite hid, or so far below as to be seen but obscurely united to make those impressions stronger. No contradictory emotions are raised—no ill-judged temples appear to *enliven* a scene that is gloomy, rather than gay. Falling or moving water is a lively object; but this being obscure, the noise operates differently. Following the road a little further, there is another bold rocky projection from which also, there is a double view to the right and left. In front so immense a sweep of hanging wood, that a nobler scene can hardly be imagined: the river, as before, at the bottom of the precipice, which is so steep and the depth so great, as to be quite fearful to look down. This horrid precipice, the pointed bleak mountains in view, with the roar of the water, all conspire to raise one great emotion of the sublime. You advance scarcely 20 yards before a pretty scene opens to the left, a distant landscape of inclosures, with a river winding between the hills to the sea. Passing to the right, fresh scenes of wood appear; half way to the bottom, one different from the preceding is seen; you are almost inclosed in wood, and look to the right through some low oaks on the opposite bank of wood, with an edging of trees through which the sky is seen, which added to an uncommon elegance in the outline of the hill, has a most pleasing effect. Winding down to a thatched bench on a rocky point, you look upon an uncommon scene. Immediately beneath is a vast chasm in the rock, which seems torn asunder, to let the torrent through that comes tumbling over a rocky bed far sunk in a channel embosomed in wood. Above is a range of gloomy obscure woods, which half overshadow it, and rising to a vast height, exclude every object. To the left the water rolls away over broken rocks: a scene truly romantic. Followed the path: it led me to the water's edge, at the bottom of the Glen, where is a new scene, in which not a single circumstance hurts the principal character. In a hollow formed of rock and wood (every object excluded but those and water) the torrent breaks forth from fragments of rock, and tumbles through the chasm, rocks bulging over it, as if ready to fall into the channel, and stop the impetuous water. The shade is so thick as to exclude the heavens, all is retired and gloomy, a brown horror breathing over the whole. It is a spot for melancholy to muse in.

RETURN to the carriage, and quit the Dargle, which upon the whole is a very singular place, different from all I have seen in England, and, I think, preferable to most. Cross a murmuring stream clear as chrystal, and rising a hill, look back on a pleasing landscape of inclosures, which
waving

waving over hills, end in mountains of a very noble character. Reach Dublin.

JULY 18th, once more to Lord Harcourt's at St. Woolstan's, where I was so fortunate as to meet Colonel Burton : he gave me a fresh packet of recommendations into the north of Ireland, and taking my leave of his excellency, passed Manooth to Kilrue. From Celbridge to Manooth is a line of very fine corn. Passed Dunboyne, from thence to Kilrue ; the soil is clay, flat and strong, and I observed much hollow draining going on, with very fine crops of wheat and oats. The land about Mr. Jones is very fine rich strong loam, called here clay.

MR. LOWTHER, to whom I had a letter, not being at home, I was forced to take refuge in a cabin, called an inn, at Ratoath. Preserve me, fates! from such another.

IN their strong lands about Kilrue their courses are:—1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, yielding 8 to 15 barrels an acre. 3. Oats, 9 to 20 barrels.

1. Potatoes 80 barrels.

1. Potatoes.

2. Beans 7 to 15.

2. Barley 9 to 14.

3. Oats.

3. Oats.

LIMESTONE gravel they use in great quantities ; lay it on a fallow, and it lasts 7 years, the expence from 4l. to 8l. Lime they also have, but find that it will not last like gravel. Hollow, called *french* drains, are very general, even among the common farmers : some done with stones, but much with fods, laid an edge in the ground, they dig them 2½ or 3 feet deep, at two feet and an half, the expence is 5d. a perch. At 3 feet it is 8d. Clover they sow pretty much, let it lie two years, and then break it up for oats on one ploughing. They sow it on both winter and spring corn. The poor give 5l. 5s. an acre for lay to plant potatoes on, and the same for stubbled ground dunged. A cabin and half an acre of land 30s. rent, and 30s. more for a cow's feed. Farms rise to 300 acres, and rents from 18s. to 25s. an acre.

JULY 19th, left Ratoath, passing Robert's-town, found much of the land a strong loam without stones, with all the appearance of being a very fine soil. Got to Baron Hamilton's at Hampton, near Balbriggan, by breakfast. His house is new built, and stands agreeably by a fine shore, with a full view of the mountains of Mourn, at 16 leagues distance, and the isles of Skerry near him, much improving his view. He favoured me with the following account.

ABOUT Hampton, the soil clay or strong loam, and many stones in it ; lets from 20s. to 30s. Farms rise from 40 acres to 100 and 150. No taking in partnership. Courses :

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, 7 barrels. 3. Barley, 10 to 12. 4. Oats, 10.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. White pease.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Clover for 2 years.

6. Wheat or fallow.

THE

THE manures lime, sea sand, marle, and lime-stone gravel got three feet deep. Lime 6d. to 8d. at the kiln; they lay from 100 to 150 barrels, which last 8 or 9 years; on the dry soils best. On clay well drained, they spread of lime-stone gravel, that has a strong fermentation, 300 to 400 loads, generally out of drains, ditches, &c. draining their lands at the same time; lasts long, and is best on strong land. Sea sand on poor clay excellent; lay 300 barrels an acre, which is a good dressing; lasts many years, and changes it from scutch (*triticum repens*) to white clover; it has an effervescence with acids. The marle white under black bottoms; 300 loads an acre. On new lays the Baron has found a very fine effect from it. Flax chiefly after potatoes, and then barley. Sow enough for their own use, not enough for manufactures for sale. For potatoes 4l. an acre for dunged land, or lay on dung and have it for nothing. Much french draining, 4 feet deep, and 5 inches at bottom; fill with stones, and the improvement found very great; the common farmers do much of it. Tillage mostly with horses. In hiring farms they will take 100 acres with 200l. Tythes are generally compounded. The Baron has 800l. a year in tythes, and they pay upon an average 2s. an acre. If distinguished, wheat is 8s. or 9s. Barley 8s. Oats 5s. Pease 4s. Meadow 4s. 6d. Many lands are hired to be relet. Population encreases very fast, and the country in every respect improves amazingly. A cottage and half an acre 40s. to 3l. for a cow 30s. generally have 2 cows. A belly full of potatoes and oatmeal for *stir-about*; keep 2 or 3 pigs, and a great deal of poultry. They are universally much better off in every respect than 20 years ago. More industrious, owing perhaps very much to the high rents; insomuch that they have been the parent of all improvements. All the manures have been found out within 20 years. Lime has not been used more than 10 years. When Baron Hamilton built the pier at Balbriggen, in the year 1763, there was only one sloop of culm for burning lime in a season, but now from 60 to 100.

CATTLE of all sorts a very inferior object here. This place is in Fingal, which is a territory from near Dublin, extending along the coast, inhabited by a people they call Fingalians; an english colony planted here many years ago, speaking nearly the same language as the Barony of Forth, but more intermixed with irish in language, &c. from vicinity to the capital.

A HORSE and car and driver 1s. two cars to a driver. The rise of labour great, 20 years, from 4d. to 6d. An extraordinary circumstance is, that Ireland has been very prosperous on comparison with former times, and yet interest of money now 6 per cent. and 20 years ago $4\frac{1}{2}$ and 5. Land sells at under 20 years purchase, fallen from 24 in 4 or 5 years, owing partly to the rents being run up too high.

BARON HAMILTON has been a considerable improver; he took in near Hampton 150 acres, mountain land, covered with scutch grafs, (*triticum repens*)

repens) furz, (*ulex europæus*) and a little heath (*erica vulgaris*); stubbed it up, ploughed it 4 times, limed it 140 to 150 barrels each acre. Sowed rye, sold it on the land 7l. 10s. an acre. For two successive years let it at 4l. 10s. an acre for two crops of oats, which yielded from 16 to 20 barrels an acre; then two years more at 3l. 15s. and 3l. 10s. the crops 14 barrels. Fallowed it to destroy scutch grafs for maslin, and then a crop of spring corn with grafs seed. This is the course in which the rough ground has been generally improved. This soil clay without much stone. In its rough state worth only 5s. an acre to remain so, but the Baron paid 16s. 6d. The first year's expence was, crop included, 10l. an acre, now worth 20s. to 28s. an acre.

THE Baron carried me to Balbriggen, a little sea port of his, which owes its being to his care and attention. It subsists by its fishing boats, which he builds; has 23 of them, each carrying 7 men, who are not paid wages, but divide the produce of their fishery. The vessel takes one share, and the hands one each, which amounts on an average to 16s. a week. A boat costs from 130l. to 200l. fitted out ready for the fishery: they make their own nets. The port owes its existence to a very fine pier which Baron Hamilton built, within which ships of 200 tons can lay their broad sides, and unload in the quay. Such vessels bring coals and culm from Wales, &c. The base of the pier is 18 feet thick, and on the outside is a considerable rampart of great fragments of rock, sunk to defend the pier against the waves. In moving these huge stones, some of which weigh 8 or 10 ton, the Baron made use of a contrivance which deserves to be generally known. They are spread along the shore, between high and low water mark, but to get them to the place where wanted was a very difficult business. He lashed puncheons to them at low water, which floated them when the tide came in, and conveyed them over the spot where wanted; but in disengaging the casks from the stone to sink the latter, he often had them broken, and found many difficulties. To remedy this, he had a contrivance very simple and ingenious, which answered the purpose completely. The puncheons were hooped strongly with iron near each end, and between these irons was a chain, from the center of which went an iron tongue. The stones, at low water, were lashed round with a chain with open irons that corresponded with those tongues in the cask chains, the one went into the other, and when closed had a female screw through all three; through the two jaws of the one, and the tongue of the other, a male screw at the end of a bar was then screwed in when the stone was ready to move. One of 8 tons required 10 puncheons upon being floated over the spot where wanted; these bars were unscrewed, and the stone and casks disengaged at once without trouble, the one sinking, and the casks floating away with the chain that was lashed round the stone.

own experience he judged them to be remarkably honest. In working his improvements, he has lived in his house without shutters, bolts or bars, and with it half full of *spalpeens*, yet never lost the least trifle—nor has he met with any depredations among his fences or plantations.

RAISING rents he considers as one of the greatest causes of the improvement of Ireland; he has found that upon his own estates it has universally quickened their industry, set them to searching for manures, and made them in every respect better farmers. But this holds only to a certain point; if carried too far, it deadens, instead of animating industry. He has always preferred his old tenants, and never let a farm by advertisement to receive proposals. That the system of letting farms to be re-let to lower tenants, was going out very much: it is principally upon the estates of absentees, whose agents think only of the most rent from the most solvent tenant.

IN conversation upon the popery laws, I expressed my surprise at their severity: he said they were severe in the letter, but were never executed. It is rarely or never (he knew no instance) that a protestant discoverer gets a lease by proving the lands let under two-thirds of their real value to a papist. There are severe penalties on carrying arms or reading mass; but the first is never executed, for poaching (which I had heard), and as to the other, mass-houses are to be seen every where: there is one in his own town. His Lordship did justice to the merits of the roman catholics, by observing that they were in general a very sober, honest, and industrious people. This account of the laws against them brought to my mind an admirable expression of Mr. Burke's in the english house of commons, CONNIVANCE IS THE RELAXATION OF SLAVERY, NOT THE DEFINITION OF LIBERTY.

THE kingdom more improved in the last 20 years than in a century before. The great spirit began in 1749 and 1750.

HE was assured that the emigrations, which made so much noise in the north of Ireland, were principally idle people, who, far from being missed, left the country the better by their absence. They were generally dissenters, very few churchmen or catholics.

IT is found in that manufacture, that it never flourishes when oatmeal is cheap—the greatest exports of linen are when it is dearest.

JULY 21st, took my leave of this prince of improvers, who gave me a letter to Mr. Forster of Rossy Park; bent my course thither, but being from home, went on to Atherdee; and one of the finest sheets of corn I ever beheld is from the hill which looks down on that town. It is a glorious prospect, all waving hills of wheat as far as the eye can see, with the town of Atherdee in a wood in the vale.

To Dundalk, the view down on this town also very beautiful, swelling hills of a fine verdure, with many rich inclosures backed by a bold outline of mountain that is remarkable. Laid at the Clanbrassil Arms, and found it a very good inn. The place, like most of the irish towns I have been in, full of

new

new buildings, with every mark of increasing wealth and prosperity. A cambrick manufacture was established here by parliament, but failed; it was, however, the origin of that more to the north.

JULY 22d, left Dundalk—Took the road through Ravensdale to Mr. Fortescue, to whom I had a letter, but unfortunately he was in the south of Ireland. Here I saw many good stone and slate houses, and some bleach greens; and I was much pleased to see the inclosures creeping high up the sides of the mountains stoney as they are. Mr. Fortescue's situation is very romantic on the side of a mountain, with fine woods hanging on every side, with the lawn beautifully scattered with trees spreading into them, and a pretty river winding through the vale, beautiful in itself, but trebly so on information, that before he fixed there, it was all a wild waste. Rents in Ravensdale 10s. mountain land 2s. 6d. to 5s. Also large tracts rented by villages, the cottars dividing it among themselves, and making the mountain common for their cattle.

BREAKFASTED at Newry, the Globe, another good inn.—This town appears exceedingly flourishing, and is very well built; yet 40 years ago, I was told there were nothing but mud cabbins in it: this great rise has been much owing to the canal to Loch-Neagh. I crossed it twice—it is indeed a noble work. I was amazed to see ships of 150 tons and more lying in it, like barges in an english canal. Here is a considerable trade.

TAKE the road to Market-hill: the town parks about Newry let up to 2l. and 3l. an acre, which is here english measure. They sow oats chiefly as I advanced, with a little barley—no fallows, and but little clover. Within 4 miles of Market-hill, the course:

1. Oats. 2. Oats. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats, and then leave it to the rubbish, which comes for 3 or 4 years: some potatoes, and after it flax. I am now got into the linen country, and the worst husbandry I have met with; my lord chief baron is right. Rents 10s. to 13s. the english acre; all the farms are very small, let to weavers, &c. They measure by the boll of 10 bushels, a good crop of oats three to four and an half.

THIS road is abominably bad, continually over hills, rough, stony, and cut up. It is a turnpike, which in Ireland is a synonymous term for a vile road; which is the more extraordinary, as the bye ones are the finest in the world. It is the effect of jobs and imposition which disgrace the kingdom; the presentment roads shew what may be done, and render these villainous turnpikes the more disgusting.

CALLED at Lord Gosfort's, to whom I had been introduced by Lord Harcourt, but he was not yet come from Dublin; his steward, however, gave me the few following particulars. About Market-Hill they measure by the english acre, and let from 8s. mountain to 12s. and 14s. The courses are:

1. Oats. 2. Oats. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats, then leave it to itself to graze 3 or 4 years, this on good strong land; on worse 3 or 4 of oats, and 3 or 4 of grass, that is weeds, they reckon the best management to lime it

on

on the sod, then 3 crops of oats, and 3 years left, and that one liming will last many years.

MEASURE by bolls, each 10 bushels; sow 6 bushels of oats to an acre; a good crop is 60 bushels, but that is extraordinary, 4 or 5 bolls common; and the crops will hold good through the whole course, the first will be the worst. Another course:

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax, or oats. Also after several crops of oats, plough thrice and sow flax seed, 2 bushels to an acre, and yield 12 to 18 stone to every bushel of seed. Never sow flax twice running. Plant 16 to 18 bushels of potatoes on an acre; they do not live intirely on them, but have oatmeal, oaten bread, and sometimes flesh meat, once or twice a week. In spinning a woman will do 5 or 6 hanks a week, and get 30s. for it by hire, as wages for half a year; a girl of 12 years old three halfpence, or two-pence a day. A man will earn, by weaving coarse linen 1s. 2d. and 1s. 6d, by fine linen. The manufacturers live better than the labourers; they earn 3s. 6d. a week in winter, and 4s. in summer. Manufacturers have all from 6 to 15 acres from 6s. to 20s. an acre, and the house into the bargain: generally 2 or 3 cows, and a bit of flax enough for half a bushel or a barrel of seed, at 3 bushels to an acre. The country labourers have also from 6 to 10 acres. A cabin without land 1l. 1s. a year. Cloth and yarn never so dear as at present, and people all employed—none idle. A cottage-building 5l. ditto stone and slate 80l. A great rise of both labour and provisions; 20 years ago beef 1d. and 1½d. per lb. and labour 3d. and 4d. a day.

RELIGION mostly roman, but some presbyterians and church of England.—Manufacturers generally protestants.

THE manufacturers wives drink tea for breakfast. No cattle but for convenience among the small farmers. No farms above 100 acres, and those stock ones, for fattening cows and bullocks. Very few sheep in the country. Manures are lime, of which 20 to 60 barrels per acre, at 1s. 6d. will last for ever: best for light land—marle grey and white, best on heathy ground. Some soapers waste at Armagh and Newry, but not much.

REACHED Ardmagh in the evening; waited on the primate.

JULY 23d, his Grace rode out with me to Ardmagh, and shewed me some of the noble and spirited works by which he has perfectly changed the face of the neighbourhood. The buildings he has erected in 7 years, one would suppose without previous information, to be the work of an active life. A list of them will justify this observation.

He has erected a very elegant palace, 90 feet by 60, and 40 high, in which an unadorned simplicity reigns. It is light and pleasing, without the addition of wings or lesser parts, which too frequently wanting a sufficient uniformity with the body of the edifice, are unconnected with it in effect, and divide the attention. Large and ample offices are conveniently placed behind a plantation at a small distance: around the palace is a large lawn, which spreads on every side

over

over the hills, and skirted by young plantations, in one of which is a terrace, which commands a most beautiful view of cultivated hill and dale. The view from the palace is much improved by the barracks, the school, and a new church at a distance, all which are so placed as to be exceedingly ornamental to the whole country.

THE barracks were erected under his Grace's directions, and form a large and handsome edifice. The school is a building of considerable extent, and admirably adapted for the purpose: a more convenient or a better contrived one, is no where to be seen. There are apartments for a master, a school-room 56 feet by 28, a large dining-room and spacious airy dormitories, with every other necessary, and a spacious play-ground walled in; the whole forming a handsome front: and attention being paid to the residence of the master (the salary is 400l. a year), the school flourishes, and must prove one of the greatest advantages to the country of any thing that could have been established. This edifice entirely at the primate's expence. The church is erected of white stone, and having a tall spire makes a very agreeable object, in a country where churches and spires do not abound—at least such as are worth looking at. Three other churches the primate has also built, and done considerable reparations to the cathedral.

HE has been the means also of erecting a public infirmary, which was built by subscription, contributing amply to it himself.

A PUBLIC library he has erected at his own expence, given a large collection of books, and endowed it. The room is excellently adapted, 45 by 25, and 20 high, with a gallery, and apartments for a librarian.

HE has further ornamented the city with a market-house and shambles, and been the direct means, by giving leases upon that condition, of almost new building the whole place. He found it a nest of mud cabbins, and he will leave it a well built city of stone and slate. I heard it asserted in common conversation, that his Grace, in these noble undertakings, had not expended less than 30,000l. besides what he had been the means of doing, though not directly at his own expence.

WHEN it is considered that all this has been done in the short term of 7 or eight years, I should not be accused of exaggeration, if I said they were noble and spirited works undertaken upon a man's paternal estate, how much more then are they worthy of praise when executed not for his own posterity but for the public good? Amidst such great works of a different nature, it is not to be expected that his Grace should have given much attention to agriculture; yet has he not neglected it. In order to improve the breed of cattle in the country, he brought from England a bull and several cows of the true Teeswater breed, of a vast size, with short Holderneffe horns; they give a great quantity of milk, and he has preserved the breed pure and to their size, by feeding the calves with much attention: they have a considerable quantity of milk given them while at grass.

IN the husbandry of the neighbourhood no other corn is raised than oats, and they have a notion that wheat will not do here: to convince them of the contrary,

LEFT Balbriggan and went to Bally-garth, the seat of ——— Pepper, Esq; a place very agreeably wooded on a rising ground above a river.

MR. PEPPER keeps a considerable domain in his hands, and has practiced several parts of husbandry with much attention; he has laid down large tracts to grass, which he has made so good that he could let it readily for 50s. to 3l. an acre. His course of crops has been sometimes, 1. Turneps. 2. Barley. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat; and has cultivated turneps in considerable quantities. In several particulars, which I saw myself, Mr. Pepper appears an excellent farmer. His quick fences were in perfect order; his wet lands hollow drained, and the mouths of the drains well faced with stone. The old ditch earth on the borders of his fields was carting away to form composts; he did it by contract, the men digging and leading it from 20 to 30 perches, driving and finding horses and cars at 5d. a score loads, each a barrel. This is much *against* the Irish cars, for 4 horses carry but 16 bushels of earth, whereas 3 in an English cart would carry double that. Mr. Pepper is much a friend to them for some things, but in others thinks that 2 horse carts are preferable; with 2 horses in a well made cart, he sends 10 barrels to Dublin, whereas 2 horses in 2 cars carry but 5 or 6 barrels, which is a great inferiority; but he likes the little one horse cart better still, which brings him 3 barrels of coals, lime, &c. A circumstance in the fattening of cattle, in which he is peculiar, is, not letting his bulls go among his fattening cows; he never does this, and finds that they fat as well without as with it. In breeding sheep he is attentive, finding it a profitable branch of farming. He keeps his lambs till they are 2-year-old wethers, and sells them in spring at 35s. each on an average; but could not do it without the assistance of turneps. His ewes clip 8lb. of wool, and his lambs 7lb. 20 acres of grass will carry 100 through the year, except the turnep season. Sea land Mr. Pepper spreads on his clay meadows, and finds the benefit of it very great.

IN conversation on the common people, Mr. Pepper assured me he never found them more dishonest than in other countries. They would thief slightly till they found him resolute in punishing all he discovered; even his turneps have suffered very little depredation.

JULY 20th, to Drogheda, a well built town, active in trade, the Boyne bringing ships to it. It was market day, and I found the quantity of corn, &c. and the number of people assembled very great; few country markets in England more thronged. The Rev. Mr. Nesbit, to whom recommended, absent, which was a great loss to me, as I had several enquiries which remained unsatisfied.

To the field of battle on the Boyne.—The view of the scene from a rising ground which looks down upon it is exceedingly beautiful, being one of the completest landscapes I have seen. It is a vale, losing itself

in front between bold declivities, above which are some thick woods, and distant country. Through the vale the river winds and forms an island, the point of which is tufted with trees in the prettiest manner imaginable; on the other side a rich scenery of wood, among which is Doctor Norris's house. To the right on a rising ground on the banks of the river is the obelisk, backed by a very bold declivity; pursued the road till near it, quitted my chaise, and walked to the foot of it. It is founded on a rock which rises boldly from the river. It is a noble pillar, and admirably placed. I seated myself on the opposite rock, and indulged the emotions which with a melancholy not unpleasing filled my bosom, while I reflected on the consequences that had sprung from the victory here obtained. Liberty was then triumphant. May the virtues of our posterity secure that prize which the bravery of their ancestors won! Peace to the memory of the Prince to whom, whatever might be his failings, we owed that day memorable in the annals of Europe!

RETURNED part of the way, and took the road to Cullen, where the Lord Chief Baron Forster received me in the most obliging manner, and gave me a variety of information uncommonly valuable. He has made the greatest improvements I have any where met with. The whole country 22 years ago was a waste sheep walk, covered chiefly with heath, with some dwarf furz and fern. The cabbins and people as miserable as can be conceived; not a protestant in the country, nor a road passable for a carriage. In a word, perfectly resembling other mountainous tracts, and the whole yielding a rent of not more than from 3s. to 4s. an acre. Mr. Forster could not bear so barren a property, and determined to attempt the improvement of an estate of 5000 acres till then deemed irreclaimable. He encouraged the tenants by every species of persuasion and expence, but they had so ill an opinion of the land that he was forced to begin with 2 or 3000 acres in his own hands; he did not, however, turn out the people, but kept them in to see the effect of his operations.

THESE were of a magnitude I have never heard before: he had for several years 27 lime-kilns burning stone, which was brought four miles with culm from Milford Haven. He had 450 cars employed by these kilns, and paid 700l. a year for culm: the stone was quarried by from 60 to 80 men regularly at that work; this was doing the business with incomparable spirit—yet had he no peculiar advantages, but many circumstances against him, among which his constant attendance on the courts, which enabled him to see Cullen but by starts, was not the least. The works were necessarily left to others at a time that he could have wished constantly to have attended them.

WHILE this vast business of liming was going forwards, roads were also making, and the whole tract inclosed in fields of about 10 acres each, with ditches 7 feet wide, and 6 deep, at 1s. a perch, the banks planted with quick and forest trees. Of these fences 70,000 perches were done.

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IN order to create a new race of tenants, he fixed upon the most active and industrious labourers, bought them cows, &c. and advanced money to begin with little farms, leaving them to pay it as they could. These men he nursed up in proportion to their industry, and some of them are now good farmers, with 4 or 500*l.* each in their pockets. He dictated to them what they should do with their lands, promising to pay the loss, if any should happen, while all the advantage would be their own. They obeyed him implicitly, and he never had a demand for a shilling loss.

HE fixed a colony of french and english protestants on the land, which have flourished greatly. In Cullen are 50 families of tradesmen, among whom sobriety and industry are perfectly established.

MANY of these lands being very wet, draining was a considerable operation : this he did very effectually, burying in the drains several millions of loads of stones.

THE mode in which the chief baron carried on the improvement, was by fallowing. He stubbed the furze, &c. and ploughed it, upon which he spread from 140 to 170 barrels of lime per acre, proportioning the quantity to the mould or clay which the plough turned up. For experiment he tried as far as 300 barrels, and always found that the greater the quantity, the greater the improvement. The lime cost him 9*d.* a barrel on the land : his usual quantity 160, at the expence of 6*l.* an acre, and the total of that expence alone thirty thousand pounds ! After the liming, fallowed the land for rye, and after the rye took two crops of oats. Throughout the improvement, the lime has been so exceedingly beneficial that he attributes his success principally to the use of it. Without it, all other circumstances equal, he has got 3 or 4 barrels an acre of oats, but with it 20 and 22 of barley. Has compared lime and white marle on an improved mountain-soil for flax, that on the lime produced 1000*lb.* well scutched, the other 300*lb.*

HIS great object was to shew the tenantry as soon as he could, what these improvements would do in corn, in order to set them to work themselves. He sold them the corn crops on the ground at 40*s.* an acre : the three crops paid him therefore the expence of the liming, at the same time they were profitable bargains to the tenants. With the third corn-crop the land was laid down to grass. Upon this operation, after the manuring, ditching and draining, the old tenants very readily hired them. Some seeing the benefit of the works, executed them upon their own lands ; but their landlord advanced all the money, and trusted to their success and honesty for the payment. This change of their sentiments induced him to build new farm-houses, of which he has erected above 30, all of lime and stone, at the expence of above 40*l.* a house ; the farms are in general about 80 acres each.

AFTER six or seven years, the chief baron limed much of it a second time on the sod, and the benefit of it very great. It is all let now on an average at 20s. an acre. Upon the whole, his Lordship is clearly of opinion that the improvement has been exceedingly profitable to him, besides the pleasure that has attended so uncommon a creation. He would recommend a similar undertaking to others who possess wastes, and if he had such another estate he would undertake it himself.

HE also allotted a considerable tract of many acres for plantations, which are well placed and flourishing. Ridings are cut in them, and they form a very agreeable scenery. Mr. Forster, his son, takes much pleasure in adding to them, and has introduced 1700 sorts of european and american plants. The country is now a sheet of corn: a greater improvement I have not heard of, or one which did more genuine honour to the person that undertook it.

THIS GREAT IMPROVER, a title more deserving estimation than that of a great general or a great minister, lives now to overlook a country flourishing only from his exertions. He has made a barren wilderness smile with cultivation, planted it with people, and made those people happy. Such are the men to whom monarchs should decree their honours, and nations erect their statues.

SOME other circumstances I learnt from his Lordship were: more than half the county of Louth, which is one of the best in Ireland for tillage, is every year under corn, 25 years ago, it was all at 10s. an acre, now 21s. *Corn-acre* rents, 40 years ago, were 25s.—25 years ago 30s.—now 31. 12s. Conjectures one family to every 10 acres in the county, exclusive of towns: found this by observing generally four families to every farm of 40 acres.

THE general course of crops in Louth is: 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, the produce 6 barrels. 3. Oats, ditto 15 barrels. 4. Barley, ditto 15 barrels. 5. Oats. 6. Grass-seeds sown, or left waste to turf itself.

IN his Lordship's circuits through the north of Ireland he was, upon all occasions, attentive to procure information relative to the linen manufacture.

IT has been his general observation, that where the linen manufacture spreads the tillage is very bad. Thirty years ago the export of linen and yarn about 500,000l. a year; now 1,200,000l. to 1,500,000l. The chief baron has taken some pains to compare the linen and woollen manufactory for Ireland, and found from the closest inspection that the people employed in the linen earned one-third more than those in the woollen. One stone of wool is the produce of an acre of grass, which feeds two and an half, or three sheep. Raw, it is equal to one-third of the manufactured value, and at 10s. is only 11. 10s. gross produce. An acre of flax at 8 cwt. and he has had 12 cwt. wrought into the worst linens, will amount to ten times the value of the acre under wool.

RESPECTING the thieving disposition of the common people, which I had heard so much of, the chief baron was of an entire different opinion—from his

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trary, the primate has fallowed a large field, manured it differently for a comparison, and sowed wheat. The crop I viewed, and found it a very fine and a very clean one.

IN order that I might be well informed about the linen manufacture, his Grace was so obliging as to send for one of the most considerable merchants in the city, Mr. Mac-geough, who very intelligently gave me all the particulars I wanted.

THE following circumstances I owe to his information. About Armagh the farms are very small; the principal people occupy from 40 to 60 acres, these sow some flax as well as raise corn, but in general they are from 5 to 20 acres; the only object the linen manufacture. This is the case all the way to Newry; also to Monaghan, but in that county the farms are somewhat larger. Towards Lurgan, Dungannon, and Stewart's-town, much the same. Rents around Armagh are from 7s. to 15s. Much mountain let in gross by townlands not measured; average 10s. The whole county much lower. To Newry 10s. To Dungannon 11s. To Lurgan 10s. The manufacturers, under-tenants on the church-lands, have leases of 14 years; on other lands 3 lives, which make a visible difference in culture. A manufacturer who has 10 acres will keep 2 cows and a horse, a pig, but not much poultry; he will sow $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 bolls of oats on 3 acres—a bushel, or $1\frac{1}{4}$ of flax-seed on a rood or a rood and a half, and half an acre of potatoes, or as much as he can dung. His course is:

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats, and let it then lay for pasture, not sowing in general any grasses—some of them a little clover; the benefit of which is very great. When his son grows up and marries, he universally divides his farm with him, building a new mud cabbin: thus farms are constantly growing less and less. This is found very hurtful, by reducing them so low that they will not supply the people with necessaries. Scarce any of them have potatoes and oats to feed their families; great importations from Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Cavan, and Tyrone, besides what comes occasionally from England and Scotland. Their food principally potatoes and oatmeal, very little meat; the better sort, however, buy some beef for winter, but it is not common. Many of them live very poorly, sometimes having for 3 months only potatoes and salt and water. There are few labouring poor unconnected with the manufacture, but when it is not in a very flourishing state, they live better than those employed by linen. No flax farmers; scarce any but what is raised in patches by the cottars. Upon light or mountain lands they prefer the american flax-seed. Upon heavy or clay lands they sow Riga Dutch, or Flanders seed; the quantity they get is more and better in quality than from the american, and will last 20 years. For fine linens they never save seed, pulling it green: but for coarse linens they save as much as they can.

I was informed that the produce of the flax depended on the oiliness of it, and that the goodness of the linen on not being too much bleached, which is only an exhalation of the oil. If so, it should appear that perfecting the seed must injure both linen and flax: but still the contrary is the opinion here. The quan-

tity of seed from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 bushels per acre : or 4 bushels of their own, from the idea that it is not so well sowed.

THEY plough their potatoe-land or barley-stubble once the end of march or april, and sow it. But it is found by several that the best flax, and the greatest quantity, is by sowing their poorest lands that have been run out by oats, upon 3 ploughings, and the reason they do it not more is for want of ability to give the 3 ploughings. They weed it very carefully. They generally pull it the latter end of july and the beginning of august, and immediately ripple it to get the seeds off, and then lay it into water from 6 or 7 to 12 days, according to the softness of the water, trying it before they take it out : the softer the water the shorter the time, generally bogs or pools, the bog the best. They lay it so thick as to fill the pool. When they take it out, they spread it on meadow ground from 10 to 15 days, according to weather ; if that is very bad, much of it is lost. Upon taking it up, they dry by laying it in heaps on a hurdle fixed upon posts, and making a fire of turf under it. As fast as it dries, they beat it on stones with a beetle, then they scutch it to separate the heart or the *shoves* from the rest. Mills are invented for this, which if they use, they pay 1s. 1d. a stone for it, which is cheaper than what their own labour amounts to. They next send it to a flax-heckler, which is a sort of combing it, and separates into two or three sorts ; here generally two, tow and flax. In this state it is saleable. The crop is from 18 to 48 stones per acre of flax rough after scutching. The medium is 30 stone, and it sells from 6s. 8d. to 9s. Much dutch flax is imported, also from Riga, Koningsberg and Petersburg, which generally regulates the price of their own : the 12 head Petersburg is much the best of the common sort, 12 head Narva not so good, but Marienburg better than Narva. The 9 heads to a bunch coarse. Dutch blay and dutch white, good and wirey ; but the best of all is the silver blay from Bristol, which comes down the Severn : it is fuller of oil, softer and better than any other sort. The average price of their own 2l. 8s. to 2l. 12s. per cwt. or 7s. to 7s. 6d. a stone. It is liked better than the imported.

Expence of an acre of land under flax.

Rent [N B. Their 10s. an acre, abovementioned, includes ditch, &c.]	£. 0	14	0
Seed bought from 10s. to 13s. a bushel. Average 12s. 3 bushels	-	1	16 0
One ploughing	-	0	7 0
Carrying off the clods and stones by their wives and children, 6 women, an acre a day	-	0	2 2
Weeding 10 women an acre in a day, 4d.	-	0	3 4
Pulling by women and children, 12 at 4d.	-	0	4 0
Rippling by men and women, say 4 men at 10d.	-	0	3 4
Laying it in the water according to distance, say	-	0	5 0
Taking it out and spreading	-	0	5 0
Taking up, drying and beetling, 42 women a day at 4d.	-	0	14 0
Scutching 30 stone at 1s. 1d.	-	1	12 6
Total	£. 6	6	4

30 stone at 4s. 2d. - - - - - - £. 6 5 0

If let to a man who should farm flax, the labour would be much higher, as it is here reckoned only at the earning, which they could make by the manufacture, and not the rate at which they work for others. Heckling is 1s. 1d. a stone.

WE next come to the manufacture. The stone-rough after heckling will produce 8 lb. flax for coarse linen, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of tow. The 8 lb. will spin into 20 dozen of yarn, or 20 hanks or 5 spangles fit for a ten hundred cloth, which is the common sort here; and the earnings in spinning will be from 5s. to 6s. 8d. the 5 spangles, and it is very good work to do that in 20 days by one woman; in common 25 days, consequently they earn something better than 3d. a day. Seven and a half spangles will weave into a piece of linen (ten hundred sort) of 25 yards long, and yard wide. Thus one stone and a half of flax at 7s. a stone, market-price, will make that piece. But the tow remains $4\frac{1}{4}$ lb. which is 2s. 2d. of which they make a coarser linen. 30 stone, the produce of an acre, make therefore 20 such pieces. The price of this cloth is from ten-pence halfpenny to eleven-pence halfpenny a yard brown, the state in which they sell it. Average eleven-pence. The fixed price for weaving it is two-pence halfpenny a yard. But this is when the poor are not able to raise it, and work for hire for those who advance them the yarn. A great deal is done in this manner, as well as by those who raise the flax, and go through the whole of the operation. When the weaver has made his piece of cloth, he goes into the market of Armagh, which is every tuesday, and sells it to the draper as he would any other commodity, always receiving the money on the spot, as there is no credit. The draper names the price, and the man takes or refuses it. There are many drapers, so that the man tries whom he pleases: there is no combination against the seller, but rather a competition. The draper generally has the bleach greens; and the expence to him of bleaching is 4l. 10s to 5l. a pack of 30 pieces, or 3s. to 3s. 2d. a piece. Then he either sends it to factors in London or Dublin, or sells it at the linen-hall in Dublin. Some go over to Chester fair themselves, and dispose of it there. In London he gives 7 months credit: in Dublin 2 or 3: but if he goes himself to the hall, he gets part ready money. The London factor has 6 per cent. for selling and advancing the money as soon as sold, and half per cent for warehouse-room and insurance from fire. This is the principal part of the trade about Armagh.

In general the manufacture was at the height in 1770 and 1771. In 1772. and 1773 there was a great decline both in price and quantity. In 1774 very low, till may; when a sudden rise from a speculation of sending to America, and for the demand of the spanish flota, which was detained a year for want of coarse linens, not being able to be supplied from Germany as usual: and since may, 1774, it has continued very flourishing, but is not yet equal to what it was. The decline in 1772 and 1773, owing to the destruction of credit, and

to the want of a market, but let me observe that a convulsion in credit necessarily contracts the market. Another circumstance was the price of bread in England, which they think, was so high, that the english could not afford to buy much of these coarse linens, of which they are the great consumers. Germany they consider as the great rival, and not Scotland. It is thought that their flax is well cultivated, and admits of no great improvement. The emigrations were chiefly in 1772 and 1773. Many weavers and spinners, with all their families, went. Some farmers, who sold their leases, went off with sums from 100l. to 300l. and carried many with them. They stopped going when the war broke out. In 1772 and 1773 many turned farming labourers, which is not the case when the trade is high.

THE religion generally roman, some presbyterians: protestants emigrated most. The oak boys and steel boys had their rise in the increase of rents, and in oppressive county cesses.

JULY 24th, took my leave of his Grace, and breakfasted with Maxwell Close, Esq; at ———, who was so kind as to mention a few circumstances in addition, and some in contradiction, to what I had learnt at Armagh.

THE manufacture at it's greatest height at present; the price greater, and the quantity also. The emigrations nothing about Armagh; but Antrim, and Downe and Derry, many, chiefly idle fellows, who have not been the least missed: some went with money, but the sums not considerable. It was said that Lord Donnegal's high rents were the cause, but when they went they sold their leases, and got 20l. 30l. or 40l. for many, and it was this money chiefly carried. A weaver will earn from 1s. to 1s. 4d. a farming labourer 8d.

COURSE OF CROPS. 1. Potatoes. All their dung for them, the produce 40 or 50 barrels; the best sorts are the London lady, french white, black spanish. 2. Bere. 3. Flax, the produce 48 stone, scutched, at 8s. 4. Oats.

LIME used much, the price 1cd. to 1s. 6d. a barrel. Marle under the bogs, white and light, but little used. Tythes, oats 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. Barley 5s. Year's purchase of land fell much in 1772 and 1773. There are many middle men.

THE oak boys began at Blewstone upon the county cess; but in a moment rose to rents, tythes, bogs, and every thing else: idle rascals all that went to America.

MR. Close has had very fine turneps, with which he fed fat wethers from autumn for the spring markets, and gained thereby 1½d. a lb. difference in price.

TOOK a ride to see the neighbouring country by Killilean-hill, Fellows-hall, Woodpark-lodge, Lisloony, Tinan, and Glaslough, which indeed is a round that shews the country to advantage; it is a continued picture: stop where you please, you are in the midst of a beautiful landscape.

scape. The hills are waving in every variety of outline that can be imagined; there is a great plenty of wood, every tree of which is seen to advantage from the inequality of surface. It is a chearful, beautiful country, and well worth a traveller's time to take this ride, in order to see it. Ireland, notwithstanding her general nakedness, contains some scenes of beauty in which wood bears a considerable share.

CALLED in our ride at Mr. Lesly's at Gastraugh, viewed some of his great improvements: he was absent, but Mrs. Lesly was so obliging as to walk through the woods with us. The lake is a large one, containing 120 acres, and the wood of 100 acres spreads over a fine bold hill, and hangs down to the water in one deep shade, the effect remarkably beautiful: additional plantations are made, and walks cut through the whole. In the evening Mr. Lesly came to Mr. Close's, and I then had the pleasure of learning that much of his domain, from being a poor waste tract of little value, was converted to what I had seen, that is, to very fine grass land. The soil is stiff cold clay, the spontaneous growth rushes, &c. ploughed most of it first, and then manured it with either lime or marle: of lime from 100 to 120 barrels per acre, at 7d. a barrel on the ground from stone and turf of his own. Then took a crop of wheat, which proved very fine: after the wheat, laid it down with oats and hay-feed, the oats very good. Sowed the seeds of a hay-loft with clover: has used much compost made of ditch scowerings, lime, marle, &c. and spread it in the same manner as the lime; some, after the land was laid to grass, but did it best on the fallow. Much of the land so wet, that hollow drains were necessary, and made so as to lay the lands dry, the cuts very numerous, and proved effective. His fences are excellent, 2 rows of quick, and a ditch 6 by 7, a dry hedge at top, and the back dressed and planted with forest trees paled in. Mr. Lesly has found the business of improvement profitable, so that if a tenant had the money necessary, he would find it to be the best work he could engage in with a view to profit alone.

JULY 25th, returned through Armagh. Passed Sir Capel Molyneux's domain, which seems an extensive and very fine one. Near it I observed that the soil was one of the finest red sandy loams I have any where seen, and several pieces of potatoes were planted in drills, which is a practice I had not yet remarked. Dined with Mr. Workman, at Mahon; about that place the size of their farms are from 10 to 20 acres, at about 12s. to 15s. an acre; and some of them hiring 20 acres, will let off 5 or 6 at 18s. to 20s. an acre. They are in general very well off as to living; their food is *stir-about*, potatoes, bread of maslin or wheat, and some meat once a fortnight. They are well clothed, and have plenty of fuel; a man with 20 acres will have 150 kishes of turf a year.

A man

A man of 15 acres will have between a rood and half an acre of flax; one acre of potatoes; 2 to 4 acres of oats, and will mow 2 acres; one horse, 2 or 3 cows, one young beast, and a pig, but not much poultry. Pigs depend on potatoes.

THEIR course: 1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats, or 4. Oats, and then leave it to graze itself. Scarce any fallow, a few sown clover, which increases, to mow for foiling their cows. The weavers universally earn much more than the few country labourers there are. The best flax seed for clay land the dutch, and for light land the american. Scarce any of them save their own seed, consequently no rippling; it must stand then till dead ripe, which they think lessens the quantity, and makes it coarser. The richer the land the better. Sow generally on one ploughing. They weed it with much care. In watering, clay water reckoned much better than bogs, which they are leaving off. In general they scutch it themselves, and it is cheaper than the mills. Mr. Workman has paid 1s. 6d. for it by hand, and 1s. 1d. to the mills, and found the former cheaper; more flax from hand, and much cleaner. Immediately after scutching it is saleable in the market. Price of flax 6s. to 13s. scutched.

Expences per acre.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 0 13 0
Seed $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, at 10s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 5 0
One ploughing and harrowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 5 0
Weeding	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 0 10
Pulling by women							
Laying in water	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 1 0
Taking it out and spreading	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 3 0
Taking up, drying, and beetling	-	-	-	-	-	-	0 8 0
[Some beetle it with <i>breaks</i> , which is to the full as good as the beetles, and is done for a third of the money.]							
Scutching 25 stone, at 1s. 6d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 17 6
Then ready for market.							
							£. 4 13 4
Heckling	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 5 0
Value before heckling, from 6s. to 13s. Average 8s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	10 0 0

THE rough stone, after heckling, will produce 8lb. flax for coarse linen; and 4lb. of dressed tow, and some for *backens*. The spinners earn from 3d. to 4d. a day. The weavers earn 10d. to 1s. 4d. The coarse cloths and yarn never so high as at present. Weavers very often turn.

turn labourers, which is attributed to so many being, contrary to law, bound apprentices for 2 years, instead of 5, by which means they are bad hands, and can only do the very coarsest work. As to health, from the sedentary life, they rarely change their profession for that. They take exercise of a different sort, keeping packs of hounds, every man one, and joining, they hunt hares: a pack of hounds is never heard, but all the weavers leave their looms, and away they go after them by hundreds. This much amazed me, but assured it was very common. They are in general apt to be licentious and disorderly; but they are reckoned to be rather oppressed by the county cesses for roads, &c. which are not of general use. There is some wheat, and about Kilmore a good deal; a middling crop 5 barrels. Oats yield here 6 barrels on an average. Mr. Workman, 9 years ago, introduced the use of lime, and they are since coming fast into it: the effect is very great, though the soil is a wet loam on clay without any stones. No draining. They are in general very bad farmers, being but the second attention, and it has a bad effect on them, stiffening their fingers and hands, so that they do not return to their work so well as they left it.

IN the evening reached Mr. Brownlow's, at Lurgan, to whom I am indebted for some valuable information. This gentleman has made very great improvements in his domain: he has a lake at the bottom of a slight vale, and around are three walks, at a distance from each other; the center one is the principal, and extends 2 miles. It is well conducted for leading to the most agreeable parts of the grounds, and for commanding views of Loch Neagh, and the distant country; there are several buildings, a temple, green-house, &c. The most beautiful scene is from a bench on a gently swelling hill, which rises almost on every side from the water. The wood, the water, and the green slopes; here unite to form a very pleasing landscape. Let me observe one thing much to his honour; he advances his tenants money for all the lime they chuse, and takes payment in 8 years with rent.

UPON enquiring concerning the emigrations, I found that in 1772 and 1773, they were at the height; that some went from this neighbourhood with property, but not many. They were in general poor and unemployed. They find here, that when provisions are very cheap, the poor spend much of their time in whisky-houses. All the drapers wish that oatmeal was never under 1d. a pound. Though farms are exceedingly divided, yet few of the people raise oatmeal enough to feed themselves; all go to market for some. The weavers earn by coarse linens 1s. a day, by fine 1s. 4d. and it is the same with the spinners, the finer the yarn the more they earn; but in common a woman earns about 3d. For coarse linens they do not reckon the flax hurt by standing for seed. Their own flax is much better than the imported.

THIS being market day at Lurgan, Mr. Brownlow walked to it with me, that I might see the way in which the linens were sold. The cambricks are sold early, and through the whole morning; but when the clock strikes eleven, the drapers jump upon stone standings, and the weavers instantly flock about them with their pieces: the bargains are not struck at a word, but there is a little altercation whether the price shall be one-halfpenny or a penny a yard, more or less, which appeared to me useless. The drapers clerk stands by him, and writes his master's name on the pieces he buys, with the price; and giving it back to the feller, he goes to the draper's quarters, and waits his coming. At twelve it ends; then there is an hour for measuring the pieces, and paying the money, for nothing but ready money is taken; and this is the way the business is carried on at all the markets. Three thousand pieces a week are sold here, at 35s. each on an average, or 5,250l. and per annum 273,000l. and this is all made in a circumference of not many miles.

THE town parks about Lurgan let at 40s. an acre, but the country in general at 14s. The husbandry is exceedingly bad, the people minding nothing but flax and potatoes.

LEAVING Lurgan I went to Warrenstown, and waiting upon Mr. Waring had some conversation with him upon the state of the country. He was of opinion, that the emigrations had not thinned the population, for at present they are crowded with people; but he thinks if the war ends in favour of the americans, that they will go off in shoals. Very few roman catholics emigrated. The rising of the steel boys was owing, as they said, to the increase of rents, and complaints of general oppression; but Mr. Waring remarked, that the pardons which were granted to the oak boys, a few years before, were principally the cause of those new disturbances.

CROSS the road to Mr. Clibborn's, who gave me much information of the greatest value concerning the linen manufacture. First, in respect to the flax: the following is the expence of an acre.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£.	1	1	0
Four bushels of feed 10s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0	
Two days work, ploughing, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	10	
Stoning, one woman, 4 days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0	
Flax sown on a lay now weeding (the other 12 days of a woman, at 6d.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0	
Pulling, 12 ditto	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0	
Four men carrying out to water, and 2 days of 1 horse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	16	0	
Taking out and spreading, 16 women,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	0	
Taking up, lifting, 4 women a day	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0	
Beetling, 4 men 2 days beetling, and 4 women to dry it	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	
Twelve kish of turf	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	18	0	
Scutching	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0	

£. 12 9 10.

				Brought over	£.	12	9	10
Some fold then, and some not till heckled, which for 40 stone								
the acre, 1s. 3d.				-	-	-	-	2 10 0
								<hr/>
								14 19 10
								<hr/>
Value after scutching, 7s. 6d. a stone.				-	-	-	-	15 0 0
Expences				-	-	-	-	13 3 10
								<hr/>
Profit				-	-	-	-	£. 1 16 2

After heckling, 2s. 6d.

THE stone of flax, rough after heckling, will produce $3\frac{1}{2}$ or $3\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of flax for 1800 linen, and the $3\frac{1}{4}$ will spin into 60 hanks fit for an 1800 linen. Spinners are generally hired at 10s. 6d. and 12s. the quarter, besides board and lodging; and for that they spin 4 hanks a week of 6 hank yarn for 1600 linen, and 3 a week of 8 and 9 hank yarn for 1700 linen. As soon as the yarn is spun it is boiled. The boiling changes it 1 hank in a pound; 6 hank yarn will become 7. If flax is given out to be spun, they will get 3d. a hank for 6 hank yarn for spinning it, and they do one a day. The linen made here is from 8 hundred to 24; of coarse linen 10 hundred, the common; and of fine, 13, 14, and 15. The pieces are 25 yards long, and yard wide.—53 Hanks for a web of 1600,—63 for 1800.—49 Hanks will make a piece (*a web*) of 1400, which sells at 20d. brown. The weaver is paid 10s. for weaving the 14 hundred web, and he will weave it in 9 days. For cambricks the yarn is not boiled, and therefore so much finer; they will earn more at it than at linen, but is not so saleable.

MUCH done by drapers advancing the yarn, and paying for the weaving at so much a yard. For 8 hundred, 2½d. a yard.—10 ditto, 3½d.—13 ditto, 3½d.—16 ditto, 7d.—18 ditto, 10½d.—24 ditto, 1s. 7½d.—The finer the linen the more they earn. In fine linen, going from it to the plough or spade, &c. hurts their hands so much, that they do not recover it for a week; but not common for them to do it.

1 STONE, $3\frac{1}{4}$ lb.—60 hanks—15 weeks—1 woman. 2 Stone 30. 3 Stone 45. $\frac{1}{2}$ Stone 7½. $3\frac{1}{2}$ Stone 52.—Weaving 63 hanks into a web of 1800, he has 20s. for it, and does it in 12 days; but all preparations, dressing, &c. included, it will be three weeks, at which rate he can work for a year.

THE prices of the cloth are:

		Market Low.			Market High.
8 hundred	-	8½d.	-	-	11½d.
10 ditto	-	1s.	-	-	1s. 2½d.
12 ditto	-	1s. 2d.	-	-	1s. 4½d.
15 ditto	-	1s. 7d.	-	-	1s. 9d.
17 ditto	-	2s. 4½d.	-	-	2s. 6d.
20 ditto	-	3s. 10d.	-	-	3s. 10d.
24 ditto	-	7s.	-	-	7s.

P

BLEACH

BLEACH greens sometimes belonging to the drapers, sometimes not. In bleaching it is steeped in cold river water, or sometimes not at all; then to the wash-mills for washing; then boiled in barilla ashes, (or America or Russia pot-ash) imported from Alicant to Newry or Belfast; the quantity of the barilla uncertain, about half a bushel to 100 pieces. Boiling 6 hours. Washed thoroughly after this and spread on grafs for 4 days; lift it and boil it again as before; then to the grafs again, and repeated till nearly white for rubbing. Next put it into a scald of soap, and from thence into the rub boards; if coarse cloth one rub sufficient, but for fine three or four. After rubbing, washed, and put to sower in vitriol and water, 24 hours will do, but 10 days no injury; fine cloth 3 serves, one after every rub, but for coarse one rub is sufficient. This sowering merely for cleansing and purging. After sowering it has a scald of soap, from which well washed, wrung, and made ready for starch and blue; then dried and beetled, which is done by a mill, after which done up with a screwing machine for sale. The expence of bleaching 3s. a piece, for coarse 4s. middling 5s. fine 6s. These the particulars commonly known among bleachers; there are secrets in the trade which they of course do not communicate, but not so many I apprehend as generally supposed; for where there are few, or even none, but with an appearance of them, all is supposed by the vulgar to be mystery. Upon the above account I have only to remark, that the rubbing appears to me an operation for giving the cloth beauty at the expence of strength. It is a most severe operation, being drawn between boards full of teeth, which are made for the professed purpose of adding to the friction; and the effect is such, that large quantities of knap are constantly taken out of the machine. This is a very fine invention for wearing out a manufacture as soon as made.

MR. CLIBBORN was ready enough to confess that this work is carried too far, but the London drapers, he says, demand thick cloths, and this operation contracting the breadth of the piece gives it a thick appearance, which they are fond of. The beetling does not appear to me to be near so severe an operation. It is a continued system of perpendicular strokes upon the cloth wound round a cylinder, for the purpose of smoothing it, and giving it a gloss. It is sold at Dublin; half the manufacture to London from Newry, Belfast, or Dublin. Cambrick all sold in Dublin: it encreases much. In 1771 more goods made than at present. England the great consumption of Irish linens. Scotland nor Germany interfere with those above described. No rivals in the Irish 7-8ths and 3-4ths yard wide, but in the dowlas and diaper the Germans; and in sheeting the Russians. The dowlas and sheeting are made in King's and Queen's County, and Westmeath. Diapers here, in which the same yarn as above, the breadths various, and the weavers make more by it than by linen. The trade as brisk at present as the rest. Hands are plentiful for
the

the demand, notwithstanding the emigrations; but the men do not work more than half what they might do, owing to the cheapness of provisions making them idle, as they think of nothing more than the present necessity. A general remark of all who know the trade, that when provisions are dear the more goods come to market; what they raise themselves not half feeding them. A child 7 years old earns 1d. a day spinning. There are as many employed in diaper as in cambricks. Manufacture not doubled in 15 years, about 1-third or 1-fourth increase in that time. The present high price of linens and yarn attributed to the encreased demand at Manchester for yarn: it is now 9d. a hank. Also to the spanish market for linen being almost a new trade. Likewise to foreign linens coming dearer at market than formerly. The weavers and spinners generally live upon oatmeal and potatoes, and milk, with meat once a week, and have their belly full.

A FARM 6 acres:—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Hay. 1. Rood flax. 1. Acre potatoes. 1. Oats. 2. Cows. 1. Horse. 2. Sheep. Rent, 5l. 12s.

1. POTATOES usually 160 bushels to the acre. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Left 2 years.

1. PLOUGH 3 or 4 times for flax. 2. Wheat, or barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Left.

VERY few save their feed; but this more than usual, owing to the import from America falling off. Much damaged by standing for seed from *firing*, and a great chance run of loosing the crop; but if the weather good not the worse for coarse linen, but will not do at all for fine. Clay land does best for it. They use much lime, 140 barrels per acre, at 1s. 1d. at kiln, and 6d. more carriage: they lay it on for wheat and barley. It is reckoned to pay so well, that all use it who are able.

Rent of a cabin and garden	-	-	-	-	£. 1 10 0
Grass for a cow	-	-	-	-	1 10 0
Hay for ditto	-	-	-	-	1 10 0
					<hr/>
					4 10 0

MANY weavers families have tea for breakfast. Rents rather lower than 4 or 5 years ago.

LEAVING Warrenstown, reached Hillsborough that night; passed thro' Dromore, a miserable nest of dirty mud cabins. Lord Hillsborough has marked the approach to his town by many small plantations on the tops of the hills, through which the road leads. The inn of his building is a noble one for Ireland.

JULY 27th, walked to the church built at the expence of Lord Hillsborough; there are few such in Ireland. It is a very handsome stone edifice, properly ornamented, and has a lofty spire, which is a fine object to the whole country. The form of the church is a cross, the body of it 160 feet long, and the cross-isle 120. The step to the communion table is of one stone out of his lordship's quarry, 21 feet long,

and 2 broad. To the improvements—the lake, woods, and lawn are pretty; but a well built and flourishing town in the hands of an absentee, whose great aim is to improve and adorn it, does him more credit than twenty domains.

REACHED Lisburne, and waited on the bishop of Downe, who was so obliging as to send for an intelligent linen-draper, to give me such particulars as I wanted of the manufacture in that neighbourhood. About this place chiefly fine cloth, from 14 to 21 hundred. The spinners are generally hired by the quarter, from 10s. to 12s. lodging and board, and engaged to spin 5 hanks of 8 hank yarn in a week.

To the 14 hund. linen 46 hanks——18 ditto 58 hanks——21 ditto 66 hanks.

In weaving it is common for one man to have several looms, at which journeymen weavers work, who are paid their lodging and board, and one-third of what they earn, which may come to 2s. a week on an average.

THE drapers advance the yarn, and pay for the weaving by the yard,

For a 13 hund. 4d.——18 ditto 9d.——21 ditto 1s. 1½d.

For 18 hund. linen, a woman spins 6 hanks a week, which 6 hanks weigh about a pound, at the price of 8d. a hank. The manufacture carried on in the country very much by little farmers, who have from 5 to 10 acres, and universally it is found, that going to the plough or spade for a day or two spoils them for their weaving as many more. Think that flax that has stood till seed is ripe, will not do for more than a 1600 web. Rent for sowing flax on potatoe land 4d. a perch long of 21 feet and 10 broad. The crop at a medium 10 stone from a bushel of seed. The stone 16 lb. A stone of good flax, rough, will produce 8 lb. after heckling, and spin into it as many hanks per lb. as the sort is, that is, 6 hanks of 6 hank-yarn, 7 of 7. The weavers, spinners, &c. live in general on potatoes and milk, and oat-bread, and some of them meat once a week.—Will work only for support; meal and cloth never cheap together, for when meal is cheap, they will not work. Rent of land from 10s. to 22s.

LEAVING Lisburne, took the road to Belfast, repeating my enquiries; in a few miles I found the average rent 16s. per Cunningham acre. Much flax sown, three bushels and a half of seed generally sown to an acre. Eight stone of flax, from half a bushel of seed, is reckoned a very good crop. If they have not land of their own for sowing, they pay 12s. rent for what half a bushel requires: this is 4l. 4s. per acre, but it includes ploughing, harrowing, and getting ready for the seed

Rent, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	0
Weeding	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Pulling 12 women, at 8d. a day	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	0
							<hr/>		
							£. 4	17	0
							Brought		

	Brought over	4	17	0
Watering, damming, and stones, 6 men a day at 9d.	- -	0	4	6
Taking and graffing, 6 women a day	- -	0	4	0
Taking, lifting and drying, generally in the sun, 6 women 1 day	0	4	0	
None rippled.				
Scutching at mills, 1s. 4d. a stone, 56 stone	- -	3	14	8
		<hr/>		
		£.	9	4 2
		<hr/>		

P R O D U C E.

56 stone, at 9s. 4d.	- - - - -	26	2	8
Expences	- - - - -	9	4	2
		<hr/>		
Profit	- - - - -	£.	16	18 6
		<hr/>		

Heckling is 1s. 2d. a stone, and half the weight is lost; the produce will be 4 lb. flax and 4 lb. tow, which the scotch generally buy at 3 d. a lb. To a stone heckled there are 96 hanks; and to the web of cloth there are 28 hanks for the weft, and 30 for the warp. A weaver is three weeks doing it, and is paid 17s. From Lisburne to Belfast, on the river Leggon, there are 12 or 13 bleach greens. The counties of Downe and Antrim are computed to make to the amount of 800,000l. a year, and near one-third of it in this vale.

PASSED Lord Dungannon's at Bever, whose plantations are got up to a fine shade by means of planting very thick; went to Castle-hill, Mr. Townley Blackwood's. Rents there are 15s. an acre, Cunningham-measure. Average of the county of Downe 10s. Sowing clover with flax is practiced here, coming in much, and found to be very beneficial.

IN the evening to Belfast. I had letters to Mr. Portis and Mr. Holmes; but upon calling at their houses, found the first in England and the other in the country: so considerable a place as Belfast demanded a better account than I could give without assistance. At dinner at Mr. Blackwood's, a Doctor Haliday was mentioned as a gentleman of general knowledge, and at the same time of a liberal disposition: it was the only name I knew at Belfast after my two letters proved useless. I determined to make known to this Doctor Haliday my wants, and beg his assistance in gratifying them, and accordingly wrote a note and sent it. He also in the country. Still I was unwilling to give up all thoughts of Belfast; and as I had planned going to Strangford, and from thence to Lisburne in my way north, I determined upon returning again to Belfast, in order for a farther chance of meeting with somebody that could answer me a few questions about the progress of the commerce of the place.

JULY

JULY 28th, took the road to Portaferry, by Newtown, where I breakfasted; it is an improving place, belonging to Mr. Stewart, who has built a very handsome market-house, and laid out a square around it, which he designs building. I was informed here that the linen manufacture is much less considerable than it was. Since the decline of 1772 and 1773, many weavers they told me had turned labourers, but the spinning business continues as much as ever.

LEAVING the town, the road leads at once to the shore of Strangford Loch, where I observed heaps of white shells, and upon enquiry found that they dig them at low water in the Loch in any quantities: they lay them on their lands, but do not find that they last so long as lime. Farms rise to 40 acres; rents 15s. to 21s. Cunningham-measure. Wheat yields to 30 bushels; oats to 40.

As I advanced, making farther enquiries, still I was told that the weaving, at present, was not near so good as 7 years ago. Flax, in some parishes, pays no tythe; in others, it is taken in kind. Two bushels of potatoes, on a ridge 7 yards long and 2 wide, is a very good crop. Rents from 10s. to 21s. A common course

1. Oats on lay. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Barley. 7. Oats. 8. Left for lay, a few sown clover or rye-grass for 2 years.

PASS Newtown Stewart, a row of neat stone and slate cabins, in the neighbourhood of some new plantations which surround an improved lawn, where Mr. Stewart intends building. The soil is in general light, dry, sandy or gravelly. Sea-wrack is collected for burning into kelp all along the coast of the Loch. There are many lime-kilns all the way to Portaferry; I was told 35, and that 15 years ago there was only one, so much is the improvement of land increasing. The stone is brought by sea from Carlingford, and burnt with coals and turf. The expence reckoned 1s. 1d. a barrel. It lasts 10 years. Shells are some time before they work, but they last longer than lime, directly contrary to what I was told before, from whence one may suppose the point disputable. Rents 16s. to 20s. Remarked several great rocks on the shore, which seem to have no connection with the coast, which is not rocky, nor at all in unison with such fragments.

REACHED Portaferry, the town and seat of Patrick Savage, Esq; who took every means of procuring me information concerning that neighbourhood.

JULY 29th, collected some concerning the fisheries. It is a summer herring-fishery for the home consumption of the country; they are now taken chiefly off the peninsula of Ards. Formerly the great take was in the Loch, till within these 4 years. To the whole coast they reckon that there are 400 boats; they are of 4 or 5 ton burthen, and cost 15l. a boat, the nets cost 10l. and there are 4 to each boat.

boat. A boat will catch 6 maze of herrings in a night, each 500; and they sell at 8s. 8d. a maze on an average: it is, however, a precarious fishery. In 1774 it was very good: in 1775 very bad; this year it has begun finely. It begins the 12th of July, and finishes the end of September. It is in general carried on by shares; the boat and nets have one half, and the 4 men the other half. They earn, upon an average, 11. 1s. each a week by it: 110 boats belong to Portaferry. The men are chiefly from the country; the whole barony of Ards are fishermen, sailors, and farmers, by turns. This little port has a tolerable share of trade: they have 12 ships, which go annually to Loch Swilly herring-fishery, which is a winter one on the bounty of 20s. a ton; they have 15 ships belonging to the place, from 30 to 150 tons, at 6 men each, and many others trade here. Coals are brought from Whitehaven; and from Gottenburgh and Norway timber and iron. Trade increases, and the place is much more flourishing than it was.

RODE in the evening to Millen Hill on the coast of Ards, to see the herring fleet go out. It is in the town-land of Tara, and is an excellent spot for a light-house, which is much wanted on this coast, for it is exceedingly rocky and dangerous from St. John's point to Donaghadee, so that no winter passes without shipwrecks, and in some there are a dozen. Under the hill appeared the north and south rock, with foul ground all around. A light-house might be built here for 60l. and the annual expence would not exceed 150l.

THE barony of Ards is in general a wet, strong, or clay soil, with a good deal of bog; lets on an average at 10s. 6d. an acre, the whole county 10s. the size of the farms on a medium about 40 acres, a few up to 100, and many down to 5 in weavers hands. Course of crops

1. Potatoes duned for. 2. Wheat, yields from 28 to 40 bushels, but reckon it by cwts. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Clover for 3 years, or clover and hay-seeds in case designed to lay longer, 6, 7, and 8. Oats. Also,

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Corn, &c.

A GREAT deal of lime used from Carlingford; the stone is brought and burnt with Milford or Scotch culm, and costs them, when burnt, about 11d. a barrel. It has been found very beneficial, has been used about 10 or 12 years: it does best on middling land neither very dry nor wet. Sea-sand is much used for strong clay, and brings the finest crops that can be. White marle from under the bogs they prefer to lime; it improves land so much that it will never be as bad again. Wherever they can get shell sand, they do, and find the benefit very great: sea-weed they also use for their barley lands what they get in winter, but in summer they dry and burn it into kelp. Cattle very trifling, only small stocks for convenience. The principal religion is presbyterian.

If a weaver has, as most have, a crop of flax, the wife and daughter spin it and he weaves it: if he is not a weaver, but employed by his farm,

farm, they carry the yarn to market. The diet of the poor is oaten bread, potatoes, milk, herrings, &c. The little farmers generally have meat once a week in summer, and fasted for winter. All keep cows, pay for summer grazing 1l. 7s. and buy hay for the winter to the value of 1l. 10s. They all keep pigs, not much poultry. Their fuel both turf and coals; coals 13s. a ton. Car, horse, and driver, a day, 1s. 4d. A new car 40s. to 3l. A plough 10s. 6d. A harrow 15s.

A WEAVER, who generally fows what they call half a peck of flax-feed, which is a common peck, gave me the following account of the expence.

Seed 3 bushels to $1\frac{1}{4}$ acre, Cunningham-measure	-	-	0	2	6			
Ploughing	-	-	-	0	1	0		
Weeding	-	-	-	-	0	0	9	
Pulling $1\frac{1}{2}$ woman, at 8d.	-	-	-	-	0	1	0	
Rippling 1 man, 2 days, at 10d.	-	-	-	-	0	1	8	
Watering 1 man, half a day	-	-	-	-	0	0	5	
Car and horse	-	-	-	-	0	0	8	
Taking out $1\frac{1}{2}$ man, a day, and 1 woman ditto	-	-	-	0	0	9		
Beetling 1 man, 2 days	-	-	-	-	0	1	8	
Carrying to scutch mill	-	-	-	-	0	1	0	
Scutching, 1s. 4d. a stone, 3 stone	-	-	-	-	0	4	0	
Carrying back	-	-	-	-	0	0	6	
Hekling 1s. 4d. ditto	-	-	-	-	0	4	0	
Rent	-	-	-	-	0	2	0	
No tythe of flax.								
					£.	1	2	9

At $2\frac{1}{2}$ pecks to a rood this is, per Cunningham acre, about - 9 0 0

Eight pound of flax, and three of tow, worth 6d. or stone, rough; make 30 hanks of yarn for a 1400 linen: one woman will spin it in 30 days, and earn 4d. a day. 42 hanks make a web of 25 yards, which is wove in 2 weeks, and he earns 5d. a yard or $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. and will sell green for 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 18d. a yard. Not a bleaching green in all Ards for want of water. All along the coast of Ards and in Strangford Loch, sea wrack is collected by the country people with great diligence, for burning into kelp; it yields at present from 40s. to 50s. a ton, the bleach greens have much of it, and the rest of it exported to England. Some gentlemen, who keep their shores in their own hands, pay the men 20s. a ton for collecting and burning: at other times they pay rent for the shore. In Loch Strangford the kelp is better than on the open shore: an instance of industry in this Loch deserves to be recorded. It is not uncommon for the men to draw stones from their fields, and spread them on the shores
in

in order to make the wrack (*fucus*) grow; a good crop being only obtained from rocks and stones. Upon the coast of Ards, they have in winter much tangle wrack, which they collect very carefully, form into heaps, and when rotten spread it on their barley lands, and get very fine crops, but it is not lasting.

THE plentifulness of the country about Portaferry, Strangford, &c. is very great: this will appear from the following circumstances, as well as the register of butchers meat and common poultry elsewhere inserted.

PIGEONS 2s. a dozen. Rabbits 4d. a couple. The fish are, turbot 4s. sole 10d. a pair; brett and haddock 1d. each; lobsters 5s. a dozen; oysters 10d. a hundred; john dory, gurnet; whiting 4d. a dozen; mackerel, mullet, partridges, and quails in plenty. Wild ducks 10d. to 1s. Widgeon 6d. a couple, barnacle 10d. each; teal 6d. a couple, plover 3d.

THIS country is in general beautiful, but particularly so about the streights that lead into Strangford Loch. From Mr. Savage's door the view has great variety. To the left are tracts of hilly grounds, between which the sea appears, and the vast chain of mountains in the Isle of Man distinctly seen. In front the hills rise in a beautiful outline, and a round hill projects like a promontory into the streights, and under it the town amidst groups of trees; the scene is chearful of itself, but rendered doubly so by the ships and herring-boats sailing in and out. To the right the view is crowned by the mountains of Mourne, which, wherever seen, are of a character peculiarly bold, and even terrific. The shores of the Loch behind Mr. Savage's are bold ground, abounding with numerous pleasing landscapes; the opposite coast, consisting of the woods and improvements of Castle-Ward, is a fine scenery.

JULY 30th, crossed the streights in Mr. Savage's boat, and breakfasted with Mr. Ainsworth, collector of the customs; he gave me the following particulars of the barony of Lecale, of the husbandry of which I had often heard as something better than common. The soil varies near the sea, stoney loam, dry sound good land, some without stone between the rocky hillocks, some very stoney; the land is light, as may be judged from two horses being usually in a plough, lets on an average from 12s. to 28s. average 20s. the whole county 10s. The measure the plantation acre. The south coast is the richest. Farms rise from 5 to 30 acres; the little ones are all manufacturers: there are some of 30, and perhaps 40, that are not weavers, but most of them employ looms. The division of farms among the sons, have brought them so low that they have been obliged to weave for subsistence. In the richer parts they summer fallow, and the course then is;

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, average produce 18 cwt. 3. Barley ditto, a ton per acre. 4. Oats ditto, 4 hhds. each, 12 bushels. 5. Pease. 6. Barley.

Q

ley. 7. Clover (of which they sow much) for 2 years. 8. Barley. 9. Oats. 10. Wheat.

1. Potatoes 400 bushels. 2. Barley, one ton and a half. 3. Barley. 4. Clover for 2 years, much of it soiled in the stable, a practice which increases. Also,

1. Plough-lay for oats. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Clover or pease.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Barley. 4. Barley. 5. Clover two years. Have lately got into the way of eating down a 3 year old lay, and plough it in July, and once or twice more for wheat: but to sow such with pease or beans on one earth, and then take the wheat, would be much better. Pease esteemed a refreshment, and enables them to have 1 or 2 crops of white corn. Great quantities of barley sown, being their principal crop. No turneps. Their manures are marle, shells, sea-wrack. Marle has been used greatly for many years, it is said for above 60: it is white marle from the bottom of bogs, and some of it immediately under the surface; they carry it on horseback in bags, which hold each 4 bushels, and they lay about 450 to 500 bags per acre. When the farmer has not marle on his own ground, he purchases it from his neighbour, and pays from 1l. 1s. to 1l. 10s. for liberty to raise it, and if they carry it a mile, or a mile and an half, it costs them 6l. an acre. They are reckoned very much to have exhausted their land; for upon the credit of a marling they will take 20 corn-crops running, and as a proof of this I was told, that the deanry of Down, which consists of tythes in Lecale, was 2,200l. a year, 35 years ago, whereas it is now no more than 1600l. owing to the decline of the Lecale crops; and this from the abuse of marle. Second marlings do not succeed, they think, but it has not been tried. Lime they use only on dry lands, and not often. They have the stone from Carlingford, and they burn it with coals; it costs them 11d. a barrel, lay from 80 to 150: the lighter the land, the less they lay on it: it lasts 8 or 9 crops; does upon old marled lands better than a second marling. Sea shelly sand and gravel they have upon their own shore; lay them thick on stiff reddish clay soils, and find great effect from them; lay greater quantities much than of marle, about 800 one-horse loads, the best crops in the barony are gained by it. Parts by shelling advanced, from 5s. to 25s. an acre. Very little grass land, and scarce any cattle but cows to every farm for convenience. The farmers are generally not only in Lecale, but the whole county much better and wealthier than formerly.

TYTHES generally compounded 2s. 2d. an acre for all under crops. The price of provisions has risen in general one-third in 20 years. And a cow which, 40 years ago, was bought for 25s. is now 5l. 5s. and as good a horse, 25 years ago, for 4 to 5l. as now for 10l. to 12l.

THERE are some cottars who have not farms, only a potatoe garden, a patch of flax, grass for a cow, and a little straw for the winter, for all which they pay 2l. 2s. a year. Rise in the price of labour from 4d. and board to 5d. and 6½d. and ditto in 20 years. The fuel generally coals, which

which are 13s. to 18s. a ton, and they send their children to pick up dung to burn ; yet this is the country that I have heard commended for husbandry. Building a mud farm-house 8l. Ditto stone and slate 30l.

THE linen manufacture is carried on very generally through the barony. In Downpatrick there are 500 webs sold every week, at 1s. 1d. a yard, and 26s. each, being from 800 to 1400, in general 1200 linen ; which 1200 web will take 38 hanks of 4 hank yarn, and a woman will on an average spin the 38 hanks in as many days, being paid 4d. a hank ; a weaver will make it in a fortnight, and has 10s. for it.

UPON the marling coming in, there was a corn-coasting trade opened from Strangford, and it flourished considerably, but fell off pretty much, as has been mentioned with respect to the deanry of Downe. The trade has, however, been upon the increase for about 4 years ; from the 11th of september, 1775, to July the 1st, 1776, there were 100 cargoes of wheat and barley, about 50 tons each on an average, to Liverpool, Whitehaven, Lisbon, &c. and to Dublin. Two-thirds to Dublin, and one-third foreign, which export received the bounty. The export both foreign and coasting, in 1774, nearly the same as 1775. In 1773 about 75 cargoes : in 1772, 60 to 70. The trade in general of Strangford, export, import, ships and seamen, has been in general increasing for 10 years last past ; but the year ending the 25th of last march higher than ever it was before, having every year been in a regular gradation. The decline of 1772 and 1773, in the linen manufacture, &c. not felt in the trade of this place.

To the port of Strangford, which includes Downpatrick, Dundrum, Killilea, Killoch, Portaferry, Comber, and Newtown, there belong 30 vessels, from 35 to 150 tons burthen, besides fishing vessels, of which 27 sail received the bounty in 1775 : the same number in 1774, in 1772 twenty-three. The burthen of the vessels in 1775 from 28 to 75 tons, and the bounty about 700l. All up the channel, to Strangford and Killilea, and into the Loch, there is 30 feet water, and on the bar there is as much in the lowest springs. A ship of 100 guns might lie within 15 yards of the shore.

CALLED at Lord Bangor's at Castle Ward, to deliver a letter of recommendation, but unfortunately he was on a sailing party to England ; walked through the woods, &c. The house was built by the present Lord. It is a very handsome edifice with two principal fronts, but not of the same architecture, for the one is gothic, and the other grecian. From the temple is a fine wooded scene ; you look down on a glen of wood, with a winding hill quite covered with it, and which breaks the view of a large bay : over it, appears the peninsula of Strangford, which consists of inclosures and wood. To the right, the bay is bounded by a fine grove, which projects into it. A ship at anchor added much. The house well situated above several rising woods, the whole scene a fine one.

I remarked in Lord Bangor's domains, a fine field of turneps, but *unboed*. There were some cabbages also.

I took the road to Downpatrick, through a various country; Down Bay is on the left, and exhibits an amazing variety of islands, creeks, and bays, which appear among cultivated hills in a most picturesque manner. Here I saw sheep grazing in a ditch, confined by a line fastened by two pins, and drove into the ground, and passing through rings which hung from a strap round their necks, so that they could move only from one end to the other.

To Redemon, the seat of Arthur Johnston, Esq; got there late in the evening, but being absent, I desired the servants to give me a bed, dreading being caught again at a village cabbin.

JULY 31st, to Saintfield. Rents are 10s. 6d. an acre. Several bogs here; one in particular half cultivated, the rest unimproved; fine oats, potatoes, and barley, were on it. One piece of oats shoots directly into the uncultivated part, and shews plainly what might be done with all the bogs of this country.

REACHED Belfast in the forenoon, and was then fortunate enough to meet with Mr. Holmes, also a letter from Doctor Haliday, who being absent himself recommended me to several other gentlemen. Gained upon the whole the information I wished; it consisted of the following particulars.

THE imports of Belfast consist in rum, brandy, geneva, and wines. Till within these two years much grain, since that none, but have on the contrary exported some. Coals from Britain. Iron, timber, hemp, and ashes, from the Baltic. Barilla from Spain for the bleach greens. Tea, raw sugars, hops, and porter the principal articles from Great Britain. From North America, wheat, staves, flour, and flax-seed, all which cut off at present. The exports are beef, butter, pork, to the West-Indies, and France. The great article linen cloth to London; formerly some to America. The balance much in favour of the place. Derry, Newry, and Belfast, the linen export towns; two thirds from Belfast, a little from Derry, the rest from Newry. There are three sugar houses here. The number of ships belonging to Belfast about 50 sail from 20 to 300 tons. A vessel of 200 tons, half loaded, may come to the Quay, there being 9 and a half to 10 feet water; larger vessels lay 2 miles and a half down. The trade of Belfast was at its height in 1770; 1771, 1772, and 1773, were the worst years; 1774, and 1775 it has been mending; but 1774, and 1775 not equal to 1770, and 1771, by one third. It is curious to see from hence how the trade of this place has vibrated with the linen manufacture, that being just the account I have received of the progress of that fabrick. Calculated that the trade of Belfast in general encreased one third in fifteen years, ending in 1750, or 1771. The number of people supposed to amount to from

12 to 15,000. Belfast being the place from whence the emigrations were the greatest, I made many enquiries concerning them, and found that they have for many years had a regular emigration of about 2000 annually, but in 1772 the decline of the linen manufacture encreased the number; and the same cause continuing in 1773 they were at the highest, when 4000 went. In 1774 there were but few; and in 1775 there were none, nor any since. Some that went had property, and so had some of those that always went. In general they were the most idle and worthless, and not reckoned any loss to the country. In 1771 there were 300 looms in Belfast, but in 1774 there were only 180.

THERE is a considerable slaughter at this place. In 1775 cured 6000 barrels of beef, at 40s. a barrel, in the town; and 5,500 of pork at 50s. The principal part of the grazing land the lower part of Antrim from Ballymena towards Larne, and Ballymony; some from Meath and even from Sligo. The hogs from Ardmagh, Down, and Antrim, weigh on an average 2 cwt. fattened mostly on potatoes; 6 or 7 years ago they exported 500 barrels of pork. In 1775, 7000. In 1776, it will be 10,000. When oatmeal above 1d. or 1½d. a pound, the poor live entirely upon potatoes and milk; no meat; but herrings in the season. Price of provisions, &c. at Belfast are; potatoes 9d. a bushel, pigeons 6d. a couple, rabbits ditto, salmon 2d. a pound, lobsters 6d. plaice three farthings per lb. oysters 1s. to 4s. per hundred, fresh cod 1d. per lb. barnacle 1s. widgeon 1s. a pair, oatmeal three farthings per lb. lime 1s. per barrel, coals 13s. a ton. Labour the year round 1s. 1d. in the town, 8d in the country. Seamen 30s. a month, and ship provisions. Spinners earn 3d. a day. Weavers 1s. 1d. they never go for labourers.

Gross custom including excise upon tobacco and foreign spirits.

1763	-	-	-	-	£. 32,900
1764	-	-	-	-	35,700
1765	-	-	-	-	49,600
1766	-	-	-	-	53,600
1767	-	-	-	-	50,800
1768	-	-	-	-	56,200
1769	-	-	-	-	51,500
1770	-	-	-	-	63,600
1771	-	-	-	-	62,100
1772	-	-	-	-	58,700
1773	-	-	-	-	59,900
1774	-	-	-	-	60,100
1775	-	-	-	-	64,800

IN the year ending the 25th of march 1774, pieces of linen exported 147,218; yards 3,713,822.

From

	Pieces.
FROM 1st. Nov. 1771, to 1st May, 1772	85,402
Next half year	91,712
	<hr/> 177,114
First half year	95,928
Second ditto	87,089
	<hr/> 183,017
Total	

BELFAST is a very well built town of brick, they having no stone quarry in the neighbourhood. The streets are broad and strait, and the inhabitants, amounting to about 15,000, make it appear lively and busy. The public buildings are not numerous or very striking, but over the exchange Lord Donnegal is building an assembly room, 60 feet long, by 30 broad, and 24 high; a very elegant room. A card room adjoining, 30 by 22, and 22 high; and a tea room of the same size. His Lordship is also building a new church, which is one of the lightest and most pleasing I have any where seen: it is 74 by 54, and 30 high to the cornice; the isles separated by a double row of columns; nothing can be lighter or more pleasing. The town belongs entirely to his Lordship. Rent of it 2000l. a year. His estate extends from Drumbridge, near Liffburne, to Larne, 20 miles in a right line, and is 10 broad. His royalties are great, containing the whole of Loch Neagh, which is I suppose the greatest of any subject in Europe. His eel fishery at Tome, and Port-New, on the river Ban, lets for 500l. a year; and all the fisheries are his to the leap at Colraine. The estate is supposed to be 31,000l. a year, the greatest at present in Ireland. Innishoen, in Donnegal, is his, and is 11,000l. of it. In Antrim, Lord Antrim's is the most extensive property, being 4 baronies, and 173,000 acres. The rent 8000l. a year, but relet for 64,000l. a year, by tenants that have perpetuities, perhaps the cruelest instance in the world of carelessness for the interests of posterity. The present Lord's father granted those leases.

MR. Portis of Belfast, last year sowed 3 acres 2 rood of flax; let it stand till quite ripe, then stacked it like corn, and threshed it in march; produce of seed 8 hogsheads, which sold at 4l. 4s. or 33l. 12s. He watered it then, and went through the whole operation as common. By being kept so long, he found it required less watering than in the common way. This is not the usual method of doing it.

DR.			CR.		
3 A. 2 R. at 15s. per acre	2	12	6	By 8 hogsheds of clear	
Ploughing with 2 horses,				seed fold at 4l. 4s. per	
plowman and boy, at				hogshhead - -	33 12 0
4s. 2d. per day, 4 days	0	16	8	By 896lb. clean flax fold	
Harrowing and fowing,				at 6d. a lb. - -	22 8 0
5s. 4d. and cleaning the					
furrows, 4s. - -	0	9	8	Would have fold for 7d. if it	
One hogshhead of seed -	4	0	0	had been judiciously managed, by	
Reaping - -	1	6	0	suffering it to lay a day or two longer	
Stacking, thatching and				in the water, which would have	
bringing home -	0	15	0	made the flax finer.	
Expences of watering,					
drying, taking to the					
mill, and cleaning, at					
2d. per lb. 896lb. a					
large allowance -	7	9	4		
	<hr/>				
Net profit -	£.	17	9	2	
		38	10	10	
	<hr/>				
	£.	56	0	0	
	<hr/>				
				£.	56 0 0
				<hr/>	

Note, The ground was rather inclined to clay, was ploughed from lay, but received no manure for two years; ploughed about christmas, furrowed and sowed the latter end of march, but covered with a shovel from the furrows, from an inch to an inch and an half thick.

Some of the expences of an acre of common flax near Belfast.

Rent - - - - -	£.	1	0	0
Tythe by modus - - - - -		0	1	0
Seed, hogshhead, or 7 bushels, at 8s. - - - - -		2	16	0
Sowing - - - - -		0	0	6
Ploughing and harrowing - - - - -		0	8	8
Stones and clods - - - - -		0	2	2
Weeding, 8 women 1 day - - - - -		0	4	4
Pulling, 20 women - - - - -		0	10	10
Watering - - - - -		0	3	3
Taking out and grafs-carrying, drying and beetling - - - - -		1	1	0
Scutching all at mills 1s. 4d. a stone.		<hr/>		
Heckling, 1s. 4d. ditto.		6	7	9
		<hr/>		

I was informed that Mr. Isaac, near Belfast, had 4 acres, irish measure, of strong clay land not broken up for many years, which being amply manured with lime rubbish, and sea shells, and fallowed, was sown with wheat, and yield 87l. 9s. at 9s. to 12s. per cwt. Also that Mr. Whitley, of Ballinderry, near Lisburne, a tenant of Lord Hertford's, has rarely any wheat that does not yield him 18l. an acre. The tillage of the neighbourhood for 10 miles round, is doubled in a few years. Shall export 1000 ton of corn this year from Belfast, most of it to the West-Indies, particularly oats.

AUGUST 1st, to Arthur Buntin's, Esq; near Belfast; the soil a stiff clay; lets at old rents 10s. new one 18s. the town parks of that place 30s. to 70s. ten miles round it 10s. to 20s. average 13s. A great deal of flax sown, every countryman having a little, always on potatoe land, and one ploughing: they usually sow each family a bushel of seed. Those who have no land pay the farmers 20s. rent for the land a bushel of seed sows, and always on potatoe land. They plant many more potatoes than they eat to supply the market at Belfast; manure for them with all their dung, and some of them mix dung, earth, and lime, and this is found to do better. There is much alabaster near the town, which is used for stucco plaister; sells from 1l. 1s. to 25s. a ton.

IN my way to Antrim, viewed the bleach green of Mr. Tho. Sinclair; it is the completest I had seen here. I understood that the bleaching season lasted 9 months, and that watering on the grass was quite left off. Mr. Sinclair himself was not at home, or I should probably have gained some intelligence that might have been useful.

CROSSED the mountains by the new road to Antrim, and found them to the summits to consist of exceeding good loam, and such as would improve into good meadow. It is all thrown to the little adjoining farms, with very little or any rent paid for it. They make no other use of it than turning their cows on. Pity they do not improve; a work more profitable than any they could undertake. All the way to Antrim lands let at an average at 8s. The linen manufacture spreads over the whole country, consequently the farms are very small, being nothing but patches for the convenience of weavers.

FROM Antrim to Shanes Castle the road runs at the end of Loch Neagh, commanding a noble view of it; of such an extent that the eye can see no land over it. It appears like a perfect sea, and the shore is broken sand banks, which look so much like it, that one can hardly believe the water to be fresh. Upon my arrival at the Castle, I was most agreeably saluted with four men hoeing a field of turneps round it, as a preparation for grass. These were the first turnep hoers I have seen in Ireland, and I was more pleased than if I had seen four emperors.

THE Castle is beautifully situated on the Lake, the windows commanding a very noble view of it; and this has the finer effect, as the woods,

woods are considerable, and form a fine accompaniment to this noble inland sea. Mr. O'Niel not only received me with the most flattering politeness, but was extremely assiduous for my correct information. He is a very considerable farmer, has sown turneps 3 years, never less than 11 acres, and has fattened oxen and cows, and kept milch ones on them, and has found them exceedingly useful. The beasts thrive perfectly well, and is well convinced that nothing can be more beneficial; by their means he has carried on his fat bullocks from autumn, when they would sell for 8l. 10s. being 50s. profit on 6l. the purchase price; but from turneps, he sells at 11l. 11s. to 14l. A clearer testimony cannot be given. The cabbages were applied to the same use when the turneps were gone.

Mr. O'Niel plants his potatoes in the furrows the plough forms as it stirs the land, by which a very great saving is made in labour, and the crops better than common. Among his woods, he has a great deal of fern, (*pteris aquilina*) all regularly cut and stacked for littering the farm horses, by which means he raises great quantities of manure. None of the farmers use oxen in ploughing, nor any of the gentlemen, except Mr. O'Niel, and Mr. Lesly. Mr. O'Niel introduced the custom, and has found it uncommonly beneficial. Has manured 13 acres of clay land with gravel from the lake shore, 1700 car loads, each 3 barrels per acre. It is not lime stone gravel, but small pebbly, without any earth among it. It was laid on in 1775, the year of fallow, and now is under wheat, the best crop acknowledged that ever was seen upon the land. He has many one horse carts, which carry 6 barrels, and the common car carries only 3. As I wanted to know the weight of a common irish car, Mr O'Niel ordered one to be weighed; it was 2 cwt. 2 qrs. 14lb. One of his carts weighed at the same time 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 21lb. Much hollow draining done at Shaens Castle, cut three feet and a half deep, and filled with white thorn bushes; the soil strong loam with stones on clay; the effect very considerable; the land made dry, which before draining was perfectly poaching. Of this great improvement he has done 77 acres. The soil in this neighbourhood is in general what is here called stiff clay, that is, as I found, a strong stony loam on a yellow clay. Some bog, and a little sandy skirt on the shore of the Lake. Bog is so scattered, that none of Mr. O'Niel's tenants are farther than half a mile from it. Rents rise from 6s. to 10s. average 8s. Farms as in all the linen countries, are generally very small; they rise from 5 acres to 100, but in general they are from 5 to 30. Scarce any of them but are weavers, or the employers of weavers; but they have such a custom of splitting their farms among their children, that one of 6 acres will be divided. Mr. O'Neill has found this to be a source of the greatest misery and inconvenience, for the portions are so small that they cannot live on them; the least accident, such as the death of a cow, &c. reduces them to want, so that

neither rent nor any common demand can be paid. They are likewise obliged, in order to make their little patch come near to their support, to crop it every year with oats, till the land is become almost a caput mortuum; and they are reduced to great distress with paying a very low rent. This is also found in their circumstances; rents, much under the value, are got from them with great difficulty, depending entirely on their web, and by means of their husbandry are sometimes disappointed even by that. They are by no means in good circumstances, but much distressed by every demand. In respect to living, their diet is milk, potatoes, and oat bread; very little butter, as they sell what they make. Not less than a 20 aced farmer has a side of salted beef in a winter. Many of them nothing but potatoes and milk, some only water. There is no such thing in common as a labourer unconnected with the manufacture. Every cabin has a dog regularly. There is a custom here called *rundale*, which is a division of their farms into spaces by balks, without fences, which they take here and there exactly like the common fields of England. It is a most pernicious custom, which gives to all these farms the mischiefs of our open field system in England. I believe it prevails down in Wexford, &c. where I mentioned farms in partnership without sufficiently explaining this circumstance. The rent of the county in general is 100,000l. a year, and there are not 400,000 acres, or 5s. 6d. an acre. Land sells at 21 years purchase. The courses.—1. Potatoes. 2. Oats, the produce 40 bushels. 3. Oats, 30 bushels. 4. Oats, 25 bushels. 5. Left for weeds and rubbish 2 years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Lay out to weeds.

No clover, turneps, &c. Also, 1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat, 4 to 8 barrels. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. Potatoes are all put in the trenching way; all their dung used for them, except now and then a little for barley. They plant 30 to 40 bushels of seed per acre. Weed them by hand, and get on an average about 300 or 400 bushels. A family consisting of a man, his wife, and four children, will eat 3 bushels of potatoes, and 20lb. weight of oatmeal a week. No natural manure of any kind used, nor lime. Some few will burn the surface of the bogs to ashes, and carry them to their lands for oats, on clay, and the effect is found to be considerable. Tythes are paid per acre 2s. for oats, potatoes and flax nothing. County cess 2d. an acre. No tea drank in the country, or at least very little. The leases are 3 lives, or 31 years. No men who hire large tracts in order to relet again, but plenty of them under Lord Antrim, even to 2 or 3000l. a year a man. The increase of the people is very great, extravagantly so; and is felt severely by emigration being stopped at present. Meat $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1d. rise in 20 years. A poor man's firing is 6 days labour cutting, which with all expence, will be 1l. 10s. at a mile distance, or 90 kish of turf. For flax they plough their potatoe land once.

THE expence of an acre.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	0
One ploughing and harrowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	6
Seed, $4\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, at 12s	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	14	0
Picking stones or clods they have left off.									
Tythe 2s. a bushel	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	0
Scarce any weeding.									
Pulling, 9 women a day, at 10d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	6
And 4 men a day, 1s. 6d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0
Taking out ditto	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0
Graffing, 6 women, at 10d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Trust to the sun only for drying, finding that the fire makes it husky and bad, losing by it at the mills. Rippling not common till lately.									
Send it all to the mills for beetling and scutching, 1s. 1d. a stone, 54 stone the average acre	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	18	6
Heckling, by flax dressers who go about, at 10d. a stone	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	0
							<u>£.</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9 6</u>

After heckling, each stone will have 5lb. flax, and three of tow.

5lb. at 1s. 2d.	-	-	0	5	10
3lb. at 8d.	-	-	0	2	0

£. 0 7 10 the stone price to sell.

54 Stone, at 7s. 10d.	-	21	3	0
Expences	-	10	9	6
Profit	-	<u>£.</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13 6</u>

THE flax is spun from 4 to 8 hanks to the pound. Some very curious will spin it to 10 and 12, average 6, or 30 to the 5lb. which will sell from 3s. to 3s. 6d. the spangle of 4 hanks, or 10d. a hank. Women are generally hired to spin, at from 16s. to 30s. the half year and board, and engage to spin for 30s. 6 hanks a week. The 3lb. of tow will make 9 hanks of 3 hanks per lb. of which they make linen for labourers shirts, &c. and sells for 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per yard white. The 6 hank yarn will spin into a 1600 web; they make from 14 to 20 hundred. 63 Hanks of 6 hank yarn will make a web of 1600 cloth. The weaver is paid 7d. a yard; he will do 2 yards a day, including dressing, &c. and the piece will sell in the monthly market of Randalstown for 1s. 11d. to 2s. a yard green.

THE hearts of steel lasted 3 years; began in 1770 against rents and tythes, and from that went to all sorts of grievances. All was night work, with many

fire arms. It was in reality owing to the impudence and levelling spirit of the dissenters. The roman catholicks were the most quiet. Tythes, however, were a real grievance; the proctors let the first, and perhaps the second year with them run by bond, and they oppressed them by holding the bond over their heads. These tythe farmers are a bad set of people. In the emigrations of 1772 and 1773, many farmers took with them from 30l. to 300l. Near Brochaine, a lodge of Mr. O'Niel's, 10 miles distant, there are some large grazing farms; a few that fatten 2 or 300 bullocks, but in general on poor hilly land at 3s. to 6s. an acre. The bullocks are 4 cwt. buy in at 4l. and sell out from 5 to 6l.

AUGUST 3d, passing Randalstown, had a constant view of Slamish, a remarkable mountain rising from a range of other mountains. Slamish in irish is *ſ* *the mountain*, by way of pre-eminence; under it in the vale, is a bog of great length; and between Aghoghill and Rasharkin another very improveable. Between Rasharkin and Ballymony to the left, a vast one many miles in length, chiefly improveable. To Lesly-Hill, where I found Mr. Lesly, a warm admirer of husbandry, and practising it on a scale not often met with. I have no where met with any person more inclined, or better able to inform me minutely on every object. He has made considerable improvements of bog; very near his house was one of 20 feet deep, which he has entirely reclaimed. His operation was cutting a main drain 8 feet wide, 5 deep, and 4 wide at bottom, at 9d. a perch; then it was levelled by digging at 8d. a square perch; part of it covered with dung, 320 cars an acre, each 3 cwt. and planted with potatoes. The crop 320 bushels per acre, and then levelled the trenches and sowed 20 bushels of hay seeds per acre. The other part marled, 160 cars, 10 bushels each per acre, and grasses sown at once. The potatoe part much the finest. In another part of the bog, he improved it by cutting drains 6 perch asunder, 4 feet wide, and 3 deep, at 4d. a perch; has improved some bog by first draining, then liming on the surface, 160 barrels per acre; ploughing 3 times, and sowing wheat in the trenching way. The crop 8 to 10 barrels an acre. On a heathy bog, 12 feet deep, drained, then limed, and formed beds 6 feet broad, with trenches of 2; and in the spring sowed oats covered out of the same furrows with spades; the oats indifferent. Is now digging another bog, and burning it. In general would recommend in this improvement to cut the main drains 8 feet wide, and 5 deep, which must be made wherever the fall is; if only one fall, one drain will do. Then at 6 perch asunder, cut cross drains, 4 feet wide, and 3 deep; this draining will make it in a year dry enough for cars; carry 160 loads an acre of dung, each 5 cwt. If not dung then marle, and on the manuring, trench in potatoes in the common way. If neither dung nor marle, then clay, and dig it in; sow hay seeds, and roll well. After the potatoes dig or plough, and level, and sow oats. The crop 40 bushels, and with the oats the hay seeds. Is clear that this system will improve any bog.

MR. Lesly's course of crops on stiff clay is,—1. Fallow and lime. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Clover for 2 years, plough in the second crop the second year. After two ploughings, he harrows and

and limes, 160 barrels per Cunningham acre; after the lime is well flacked, a slight harrowing to mix it. Before sowing a very shallow ploughing, and a slight harrowing to level. Then line out the lands 8 feet, and furrows 18 inches wide; sow the land, and cover the seed with the trenches, cut 1 foot deep, to cover 1 inch deep. By this means gets immense crops. Expences and produce,

1. and 2. FALLOW AND WHEAT.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	0
County cefs	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	3
Ditto second year	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3
Three ploughings, at 10s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Two harrowings, at 2s. 6d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
160 Barrels of lime, at 1s. 1d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	13	4
Spreading	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Seed, 1½ bushel, at 5s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	6
Sowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	2
Trenching, 10 men, at 8d. a day	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	8
Weeding, 1 man 1 day	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	8
Reaping, 6 men 1 day, at 8d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
Carting to barn, 1 cart and 1 horse, 3 acres a day, at 100 perch distance, all expences	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	2
Threshing 1s. a barrel, 12 barrels	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	12	0
Carriage to market	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	-	£.	15	5 6

P R O D U C E.

12 Barrels, at 11. 2s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	4	0
Straw	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Produce	-	-	-	-	-	-	£.	14	4
Loss	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0

3. BARLEY.

Rent and cefs	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	0
2 Ploughings	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
1 Harrowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Seed, 2½ bushels	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	3
Sowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	2
Trenching	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	8
Weeding	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	8
Reaping	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
Carting	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
Threshing 8 bolls, at 1s. 1d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	8
Carriage	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	4

£. 3 15 3

Brought over	-	-	-	2	3	0
Soiling 2 men, a horse and car, at 3s. 2d. a day, 19s. a week, will feed 20 cows, say 1s. a cow; begin 1st of june, and finish middle of october, 18 weeks, 18s. a cow; an acre feeds 8 cows, which is	-	-	-	7	4	0
				<u>£. 9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>

PRODUCE.

Value of the summer-grass at 2l. 2s. the common pay is 1l. 11s. 6d. in pastures	-	-	-	-	16	16	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	9	7	6
					<u>£. 7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

7. CLOVER.

Rent, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	0
Soiling 6 cows, at 18s.	-	-	-	-	-	5	8	0
						<u>£. 6</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>

PRODUCE.

6 cows, at 2l. 2s.	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	6	11	0
						<u>£. 6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>

Profit - - £. 6 1 0

Profit, barley	-	-	-	-	-	6	14	9
——Oats	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	6
——Ditto	-	-	-	-	-	5	12	6
——Clover	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	0
——Ditto	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	0

Loft by wheat	-	-	-	-	-	33	7	9
						<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
						32	6	9

Average profit - - £. 5 7 9

Twelve acres of clay land he limed 160 barrels an acre on the grass a year before he ploughed it, then summer fallowed it, and sowed $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of seed wheat, and reaped 12 barrels an acre.

I SHOULD

I SHOULD remark, that Mr. Leslie's crops of wheat were the finest I had seen in Ireland, nor do I remember finer in England. Mr. Lesly has burned great quantities of marle and clay, (the latter upon the surface of the marle pit) into ashes, and I saw two immense heaps burned, in so complete a manner, that I have not a doubt but the mode in which it is performed is perfect. One contained 7,308 solid feet, or 274 cubical yards; the other 6,534 feet, or 242 yards: in all 13,842 feet, or 516 yards, 10 feet. The expence of the whole came to 21l. 19s. 4d. It took 64 kishes of turf at beginning, but afterwards burnt itself. In the progress of the heaps, spread bog earth on some of the layers, to make it burn quicker, but it will do without. The following paper contains the directions by which Mr. Lesly performed the work.

" A C L A Y K I L N .

THIS kiln (*See the annexed plate*) is 20 feet by 12, but it may be made longer or shorter, according to the quantity you want; it may also be of any breadth that will allow men from each side to throw clay to the middle. A. A. are the air-pipes in the middle between the sod walls made, either by cutting a little trench in the ground six inches deep, and so many broad, covering them with flat stones, flates or bricks, or by stones laid on the ground at the same distance, and covered in the above manner; the use of these being to give air to the fire, and make it burn better. The end must be brought a foot on each side without the sod walls, and carefully kept from being choaked up with the ashes or rubbish. B. B. are the sod walls, about 10 or 12 inches thick; they must be 3 feet distance from each other; the use of them is to keep fuel and clay tight, and confine the heat. Raise all the sod walls two feet and an half high, except the sides next the wind, fill the spaces between the walls with turf, furze, wood, or any manner of firing, and thereon lay dry clay 6 or 8 inches thick, very close and even, set fire to it on the windward side, and then build up that side also to the level of the other sod walls; when the clay begins to look red, throw on more by degrees; the greatest difficulty is to get the first clay well on fire, when that is accomplished after the first day, it wants no other attendance than to throw on some fresh clay morning and evening, and it will continue burning as long as you please, till you can throw the clay no higher. The clay may be used just as it is dug out of the pit. The sod walls on the ends and sides must from time to time be raised as high as the clay to keep in the heat; if the fire be too weak, it may be helped by giving it vent by a poker from the top, or if it goes out, it may be renewed by putting in some fresh fuel and clay. When you fail to supply it with fresh clay, the fire will go out; the clay will then appear like the rubbish of a brick-kiln. Lay the same quantity of it on your land that you would of dung; but as poor and light land requires more than strong ground, experience must determine the

the exact quantity. The frost and rain will dissolve all the large lumps. It will exceedingly enrich your land either for corn, flax, or grafs; it kills all sprats, (*juncus*) and produces a fine sweet herbage, that lasts many years. Chuse the place for your kiln, where the clay is thick and most convenient for carriage to your fields that want manure; it will be well worth your pains to burn any clay or earth in this manner (sand and gravel only excepted); it is a very cheap manure, and hardly inferior to the marle, shells, lime, sand or sea weed, that have enriched all the farmers of this kingdom, who have had sense and industry enough to make use of them. The best kiln 16 feet wide."

Mr. Lesly practiced the drill husbandry several years, in consequence of the recommendations of Mr. Wynn Baker. He bought of him a complete set of tools for the purpose, a drill plough, horse-hoes, &c. and spared neither attention or expence to give it a fair trial, but found that it would not answer at all, and then gave it up. Lucerne by transplantation he also tried, following Mr. Baker's instructions exactly; but that did no better than the other, and he ploughed it up.

IN cattle, Mr. Lesly has been equally attentive; he procured one of Mr. Bakewell's bulls two years ago, and has bred many calves by him, but they are not yet of an age to judge of the merit of the breed: the bull is a very fine one. In draining he has made considerable exertions, principally by hollow ones. Mr. Lesly's granary is one of the best contrived I have seen in Ireland; it is raised over the threshing floor of his barn, and the floor of it is a hair-cloth for the air to pass through the heap, which is a good contrivance. The whole building is well executed and very convenient, and contains two large bullock sheds.

THE common husbandry around Lesly Hill is like that of the rest of the manufacturing part of Ireland. The country is in very small divisions, of from 5 to 30 acres, and the rent upon an average 12s. Rent of the whole county not 5s. Londonderry not so much.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Weeds for 2 years, called a lay.

1 Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Weeds for 2 years.

An acre of potatoes.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	12	0
Three bolls feed, 30s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Dung, 160 loads, at 3d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
Spreading, planting, and trenching	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	0
No weeding because lay ground.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taking up, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
									<hr/>		
									£. 7 7 0		
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S

PRODUCE.

P R O D U C E.

320 Bushels at 1s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	0	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	0
Profit	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 8	13	0

Prime cost $5\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bushel.

A man, his wife and 4 children, will eat 4 bushels a week. If they live upon oatmeal, they will eat 40 lb. or 2 bushels of oats. Average price of oatmeal 2s. 2d. a score pounds. Of barley sow 3 bushels and get 70. Of oats they sow 7 bushels and get 40 the first crop, and 30 the second, and if they run a third crop, not more than 20. A little lime used:

Expence of an acre of flax.

Rent 3s. for 10 perches twice ploughed and harrowed	-	2	12	0
Tythe	-	0	8	0
4 Bushels of seed	-	2	0	0
Taking off stones and clods	-	0	2	8
Weeding	-	0	8	0
Pulling	-	0	4	0
Laying in water	-	0	2	8
Taking out and grassing	-	0	8	0
Lifting and drying with fire	-	0	16	4
Beetling and scutching, 16 stone, at 1s. 4d.	-	1	1	0
Heckling ditto	-	1	1	0
		£. 9	3	8

The stone of flax will, after heckling, be 5 lb. and 3 lb. of tow.

Flax per acre, 80 lb. at 1s. 1d.	-	4	6	8
48 Pound of tow, 6d.	-	1	4	0
		£. 5	10	8

Expences	—	—	—	9	3	8
Produce	—	—	—	5	10	8
				£. 3	13	0

THIS account surprized me so much, that I repeated the enquiry, and had it confirmed. The flax is, however, generally sown on their own land, and in that case only the common rent to be reckoned. The 5 lb. of flax will spin into 9 hank yarn 45 hanks, and a woman will spin 4 a week, the price for spinning 6d. a hank. If they are hired, they are paid 3l. a year and board. Of these 9 hank yarn, the cloth made takes

50 hanks to a web of 25 yards, but they make double webs generally of twice that length: of 7 hank yarn a web of 48 yards, 32 inch wide, will take 88 hanks; a man weaves it in 15 days, is paid 25s. and sells it for 3s. a yard green. The tow is spun into 2 hank yarn, and wove into coarse cloth.

THE food of the poor people is potatoes, oatmeal, and milk. They generally keep cows; some of them will have a quarter or a side of beef in winter, but not all. Upon the whole, they are in general much better off than they were 20 years ago, and dress remarkably well. The manufacture is at present very flourishing. When the price of cloth is low or bad, numbers of weavers turn labourers.

THE emigrations were considerable in 1772 and 1773, and carried off a good deal of money, but it was chiefly of dissolute and idle people: they were not missed at all. There is some land yet in the rundale way, but 20 years ago much more; also change-dale, which is every man changing his land every year.

RENTS have fallen, in 4 years, 3s. an acre, and are but just beginning to get up again. Land sells at 21 years purchase. Labour has risen, in 20 years, from 5d. to 9d. No rise in the price of provisions in 20 years, or very little. The religion ten to one presbyterians.

AUGUST 4th, accompanied Mr. Lesly to his brother's at —————, within 3 miles of the Giant's Causeway, where I had the pleasure of learning several particulars concerning the country upon the coast. They measure by the Cunningham-acre, and rents are on an average 12s. Along the coast there is a tract of clay at from 14s. to 20s. The courses of crops;

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Flax. 4. Oats. - 5. Oats, and then lay out for 2 years.

MUCH of the country is in the rundale and likewise in the change-dale system. The little farmers are all weavers, who weave 10 or 1200 linen, and spin great quantities of yarn for the Derry market. Oatmeal and potatoes are the general food of the lower people, who reckon that one barrel of potatoes, to live on, is equal to 2 bushels of meal. One barrel will last a family of six eight days, and costs on an average 3s. 6d. or 4s. Oatmeal 1s. 2d. to 3s. 6d. the 20lb. but 1½d. per lb. on an average. One bushel of oats yields 18 lb. of meal. The oats are dried at home with turf on kilns, which cost from 3l. to 5l. they are then sent to a mill to be shelled, in which operation they lose half; after which they are ground; the landlord appoints the mill, and they pay 22d for it.

THE average crop of potatoes is 300 bushels on the Cunningham acre, which is 259 to the english. The account they state thus.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
County cess	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	6
Seed, 30 bushels, at 1s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0

£. 2 5 6

S 2

Brought

Brought over	-	-	-	-	2	5	6
300 Load of dung, at 2d.	-	-	-	-	2	10	0
Putting in 40 men a day, at 6d.	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Weeding	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Digging, &c. &c.	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
					<hr/>		
					£. 8		
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					5		
					<hr/>		
					6		

PRODUCE.

300 Bushels, at 1s.	—	—	—	—	15	0	0
Expences	—	—	—	—	8	5	6
					<hr/>		
Profit					£. 6	14	6
					<hr/>		

Prime cost, per bushel, 6½d.

They are, however, sometimes so low that, instead of profit, the account is a losing one; last year they were 4d. a bushel, and in Coleraine 3d. Oats are now 1s. a bushel; several thousand bushels have been exported from Coleraine to London at that price.

THERE is a considerable salmon fishery on the coast; the fish are cured in puncheons with common salt, and then in tierces of 42 gallons each, 6 of which make a ton; and it sells at present at 17l. a ton, but never before more than 16l. average for 10 years 14l. This rise of price is attributed to the american supply of the Mediterranean with fish being cut off.

RODE from Mr. Lesly's to view the Giant's Causeway. It is certainly a very great curiosity, as an object for speculation, upon the manner of its formation; whether it owes its origin to fire, and is a species of lava, or to chrysalization, or to whatever cause, is a point that has employed the attention of men much more able to decide upon it than I am; and has been so often treated, that nothing I could say could be new. When two bits of these basaltic are rubbed together quick, they emit a considerable scent like burnt leather. The scenery of the Causeway, nor of the adjacent mountains, is very magnificent, though the cliffs are bold; but for a considerable distance there is a strong disposition in the rocks to run into pentagonal cylinders, and even at Bridge, by Mr. Lesly's, is a rock in which the same disposition is plainly visible. I believe the Causeway would have struck me more if I had not seen the prints of Staffa.

RETURNED to Lesly Hill; and august 5th, departed for Coleraine. There the right hon. Mr. Jackson assisted me with the greatest politeness in procuring the intelligence I wished about the salmon fishery, which is the greatest in the kingdom, and viewed both fisheries above and below the town, very pleasantly situated on the river Ban. The salmon spawn in all the rivers that run into the Ban about the beginning of august, and as soon as they have done, swim to the sea, where they stay till january, when they begin to return to the
fresh

fresh water, and continue doing it till august, in which voyage they are taken; the nets are set the middle of January, but by act of parliament no nets nor weirs can be kept down after the 12th of august. All the fisheries on the river Ban let at 6000l. a year. From the sea to the rock above Coleraine, where the weirs are built, belongs to the London companies; the greatest part of the rest to Lord Donnegal. The eel fisheries let at 1000l. a year, and the salmon fisheries at Coleraine, 1000l. The eels make periodical voyages, as the salmon, but instead of spawning in the fresh water, they go to the sea to spawn, and the young fry return against the stream; to enable them to do which with greater ease at the leap, straw ropes are hung in the water for them; when they return to sea, they are taken: many of them weigh 9 or 10 lb. The young salmon are called *grawls*, and grow at a rate which I should suppose scarce any fish commonly known equals; for within the year some of them will come to 16 and 18 lb. but in general 10 or 12 lb. such as escape the first year's fishery are *salmon*; and at 2 years old will generally weigh 20 to 25 lb. This year's fishery has proved the greatest that ever was known, and they had the largest hawl, taking 1452 salmon at one drag of one net. In the year 1758, they had 882, which was the next greatest hawl. I had the pleasure of seeing 370 drawn in at once. They have this year taken 400 ton of fish; 200 sold fresh at 1d. and 1½. a lb. and 200 salted, at 18l. and 20l. per ton, which are sent to London, Spain, and Italy. The fishery employs 80 men, and the expences in general calculated to equal the rent.

THE linen manufacture is very general about Coleraine, coarse ten hundred linen. It is carried to Dublin in cars 110 miles, at 5s. per cwt. in summer, and 7s. 6d. in winter.

RENTS in Derry 10s. 6d. the irish acre; and farms from 6 to 15 acres. The emigrations from this neighbourhood were in general of idle, loose, disorderly people. It is at present, I was informed, too populous; and if the emigrations are not renewed, the ill effects will be severely felt. The whole county of Derry belongs to the London companies and the Bishop, except some trifling properties. There is a little trade at Coleraine in hides, butter, and fish, and some meal is imported, which sounds strange after hearing that so many oats had been exported.

MR. Jackson has made great improvements to his house, which is situated in a very pretty domain of 85 acres on the banks of the river, and all the timber he has used is out of his bog; he gets very large oak and fir trees: they are found 20 feet deep, and all lie exactly east and west.

AUGUST 6th, to Newtown-Limmavaddy; went by Magilligan, for the sake of seeing the new house building on the sea coast, by the bishop of Derry, which will be a large and convenient edifice, the shell not finished; it stands on a bold shore, but in a country where a tree is a rarity.

At Magilligan is a rabbit warren, which yields on an average 3000 dozen per ann. last year 4000 and 5000 have been known. The bodies are sold at 2d. a couple; but the skins are sent to Dublin at 5s. 7d. to 6s. a dozen, selling
from

from 1500l. to 1800l. a year. The warren is a sandy tract on the shore, and belongs to the bishop. I was informed, that at Hornhead in Donnegal, Mr. Stewart has a warren of sand 25 miles long. Mr. Smith of Newtown-Limavaddy gave me the following particulars of that neighbourhood. Farms rise so high as 60 to 70 acres, and a few to 200, in general about 40 acres; many weavers patches at 3 or 4, but the farmers themselves have yarn spun in their houses, which they give to the weavers to make into cloth: the farmer himself attending to nothing but the management of his land. This appears to me a sign that I shall soon quit the linen country; for these are more of farmers than any set I have met with for some time. Rents for a few miles about the town, not including the town parks nor mountain, are at 5s. the parks 30s. the mountains are in great quantities, more than of cultivated land; and all they do is to raise some young cattle upon them and feed some sheep. The 5s. are old rents, but new are 10s. which is the general average, Cunningham measure: of the whole county on an average not more than 4s. including bog and mountain.

1. Potatoes, value on an average 10l. 2. Barley, 3 bolls, at 12 bushels. 3. Oats, worth 50s. 4. Oats. 5. Flax. 6. Lay 2 or 3 years, some sow grasses, clover, &c. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. Manures are shells from the Loch shore and lime; lay 60 barrels of shells per acre, at 1s. a barrel on the land, will last from 5 to 7 years; the effect very great. Prefer it to lime for light land; but for deep clay ground lime best: of which 100 barrels, at 1s. More shells used than lime. Mountains beginning to be improved; they pay up to 1s. 6d. an acre; lime at 120 barrels an acre; sow oats in succession, as long as the land will bear them, get pretty good crops, but late: the soil is very wet, but they drain it with ditches.

THE linen manufacture is from 10 hundred to 16. They raise their own flax; the crops 28 stone per acre; after scutching worth 5s. 4d. a stone.

Rent of an acre twice ploughed and harrowed	2	12	0
Seed, 4 bushels, at 12s.	2	8	0
Clods and stones	0	2	0
Weeding	0	2	0
Pulling 10 women, at 8d.	0	6	8
Carrying to water	0	5	0
Taking out and grassing	0	5	0
Lifting and carrying	0	4	0
Drying 10 kishes turf, 10s. labour 2s.	0	12	0
Beetling at home 16 women, at 8d.	0	10	8
Scutching 1s. 4d. a stone	1	15	4
Heckling 8d. ditto	0	17	8
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	£.	10	0 4
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The yarn from 2 to 10 hanks a lb. generally 4; spin a hank a day: are hired for it at 3l 3s. a year; if done in the cabbin, are paid from 4d. to 4½d. a hank. The poor live on potatoes, milk, and oatmeal, with many herrings and salmon; very little flesh. In 10 or 15 years, their circumstances are improved; they live and dress better, and have better cabins.

THE emigrations were very great from hence of both idle and industrious, and carried large sums with them. Not too populous at present. They have a great spirit of dividing their farms, however small, from which many inconveniencies arise; the farmers will do the same with their farms. Rents have fallen, in 5 years, 3s. 6d. in the pound, and are still rather upon the decline. The manufacture flourishes most when oatmeal is not lower than 1d. a lb. A bushel of potatoes is reckoned equal to 20 lb. of oatmeal.

FROM Limmavaddy to Derry there is very little uncultivated land. Within 4 miles of the latter, rents are from 12s. to 20s. mountains paid for but in the gross. Reached Derry at night, and waited two hours in the dark before the ferry-boat came over for me.

AUGUST 7th, in the morning went to the Bishop's palace to leave my letters of recommendation; for I was informed of my misfortune in his being out of the kingdom. He was upon a voyage to Staffa, and had sent home some of the stones of which it consists; they appeared perfectly to resemble in shape, colour, and smell, those of the Giant's Causeway. I felt at once the extent of my loss in the absence of his lordship, who I had been repeatedly told was one of the men in all Ireland the most able to give me a variety of useful information, with at the same time the most liberal spirit of communication.

WAITED ON Mr. Robert Alexander, one of the principal merchants of Derry, who very obligingly took every means of procuring me such information as I wanted; rode with me to Loch Swilly for viewing the scene of the herring fishery, and, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Barnard, gave me the following particulars concerning it.

IN the barony of Innishoen, the courses are, 1. Barley 8 barrels; 2. oats 10; 3. oats 6; 4. lay for 3 years.

1. Oats; 2. oats; 3. oats; 4. lay 3 years.

1. Potatoes on lay; 2. barley; 3. oats 10 barrels; 4. oats 6; 5. oats 5; 6. lay 3 years.

1. Potatoes 10 l. 2. barley; 3. oats; 4. oats; 5. flax 4 Cwt.

Barley the principal crop, and generally worth 5l. to 6l. Rent of the whole peninsula to Lord Donnegal 11,000l. and to the occupying tenant 22,000l. The measure is the plantation acre. The bottoms of Innishoen 20s. an acre: the whole county of Donnegal not 1s. The linen is getting

getting in but very slowly, but spinning very general, and the best yarn in all the north: they spin all their own flax, and generally into 3 hank yarn; which all goes to Derry, and from thence to Manchester. The spinners spin a hank a day: a pound of flax worth 6d. spins into 3 hanks, which sell at present at 1s. 9d. which is 5d. a day earning, but in common only 4d. Flax yields per acre scutched $3\frac{1}{2}$ Cwt. at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. fells on foot at 6l. to 8l. expences per acre, scutching included, 5l. 14s.

THE isle of Inch belongs to Lord Donnegal; 300l. rent, and 6000l. fine, and the occupying tenants pay 1,100l. a year, there are 2000 acres. The size of farms in Innishoen are from 10 to 20 acres, with a run on the mountains for cattle. They have lime stone in many parts of the country, shells in great plenty in the lochs, which sell at 3d. a barrel for burning into lime; other rotten shells in whole banks for manure, which they use much, laying 40 barrels per acre. The soil a flaty gravel mixed with clay, with springs: the effect of the shells not great, except upon mountain land drained, where they throw up white clover. There is a fall in the rent of lands in 4 or five years. Religion generally roman catholic. Sea weed much used for potatoes; and excellent for garden cabbages.

ROWED from Fawn to Inch Island across the loch, the scenery amazingly fine, the lands every where high and bold, with one of the noblest outlines any where to be seen. Inch is a prodigiously fine extensive island, all high lands, with cultivation spreading over it, little clusters of cabins, with groups of wood: the water of a great depth: and a safe harbour for any number of ships: here is the great resort of vessels for the herring fishery; it begins the middle of october, and ends about christmas; it has been 5 years rising to what it is at present; last year 500 boats were employed in it: the farmers and coast inhabitants build and send them out, and either fish on their own account, or let them; but the latter most common. Five men take a boat, each man half a share, each net half and the boat a whole one. A boat costs 10 l. on an average, each has 6 stand of nets at 2l. In a middling year each boat will take 6000 herrings a night, during the season, 6 times a week, the price on an average 4s. 2d. a 1000 from the water, home consumption takes the most, and the shipping which lies here for the purpose the rest.

THE ships on the station for buying are from 20 to 100 tons, and have the bounty of 20s. a ton.

By the act they are to be built since the year 1766, each has one or two boats for fishing; also for the first 20 tons they must have 8 men, and 2 to every 8 ton above 20. The merchants who have the ships, both buy of the country boats and fish themselves; they both cure for barrel and in bulk that is salted in the hold of a ship; a ton of salt will cure, 10,000 herrings 500 herrings in a barrel of those of Loch-swillly, but 800 at Killybegs. They made their own barrels of american staves, but now of fir; 1000 staves, Philadelphia, will make 8 ton or 64 barrels,
and

and the price 6l. the 1000, making 11d. each barrel, 20 hoops to the barrel, at 6d.

500 boats, last year, at 5 men - - - £. 2,500

Men on shore salting - - - 300

In gutting a little boy, 10 or 12 years old, at a halfpenny
a 100, will earn 10d. a day.

60 ships, at 10 men - - - 600

Twine of a 40s. stand of nets, 20s. therefore 20s. for labour; 27 lb. of flax, spun into 16 or 18 lb. of twine, make a stand.

MR. Alexander began the fishery in 1773, when he employed two sloops only, each of 40 tons. In 1774, he employed the two sloops and a brig of 100 tons, the latter of which he sent to Antigua with 650 barrels, besides what he sold at home, and loaded the sloops in bulk for the coast trade. In 1775, he had the same brig and three sloops, and loaded all four in bulk for the coast trade; one of which on her voyage was put ashore at Black Sod, in the county of Mayo; and though the sloop was not the least injured, the country came down, obliged the crew to go on shore, threatening to murder them if they did not, and then not only robbed the vessel of her cargo, but of every portable material. The cargo was 40 ton, or 160,000 herrings. Besides what was sent coastwise this year, he exported on board his ship, the *Alexander*, 340 tons, not in the herring trade. 1750 barrels to the West-Indies. Here has been a vast encrease of the fishery in the hands of one person, which shews clearly what might be done if larger capitals were employed. Mr. Alexander was prevented last year from doing so much as he might have done, and what he did was at a very great expence for want of proper houses, which are not to be had on Loch Swilly; and in order to remedy this inconvenience, has this year, 1776, built on the point of Inch Island, called the *Downing*, a complete salting-house, consisting of a range of houses for all the operations, divided into four apartments, one of 20 feet by 18 a store-room for coarse salt, which will hold 150 to 200 tons; another of the same dimensions for fine salt; a third for receiving the herrings from the boats and gutting them, of the same size; and a fourth for a cooper's shop. These apartments all communicate with a second range, 80 by 18, which is filled with vessels for striking the herrings, that is, putting them for salt for 10 or 12 days; this communicates with a third house, 80 by 14, in which the herrings, being taken from the vessels above mentioned, are barrelled and finished off for the ships. Besides these there is a dwelling house for the clerks, &c. of 28 by 14. All these buildings are substantially erected of stone, and covered with slate. The finishing-house contains the boats when not in use, and above it is a light loft for the nets. Over the curing-house is a large loft for the empty barrels; and over the cooper's shop are apartments for the workmen, and over the gutting-house is a hoop store.

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But the salt-houses are filled to the roof. All these buildings Mr. Alexander expects to finish completely for 500l. In 1775 there were about 1800 barrels exported besides Mr. Alexander's. There were that year fish enough in the Loch for all the boats of Europe. They swarmed so, that a boat which went out at 7 in the evening, returned at 11 full, and went out on a second trip. The fellows said it was difficult to row through them; and every winter the plenty has been great, only the weather not equally good for taking, which cannot go on in a stormy night. In the buildings above described Mr. Alexander will be able to save 100,000 herrings a day, which will take 10 tons of salt, 17 or 18 boats, and 90 men; 6 men to carry from boats to the gutting-house; 40 boys, women, and girls to gut; 4 to carry from gut-house to curing-house; 10 men first salting and packing; 8 men to draw from the vessels, and carry to the barreling-house; and 10 packing into barrels, which 10 packers will keep 5 coopers employed; 6 men more will be employed in ranging the barrels and pickling off; 8 men more carrying to the ship's boats. If 100,000 herrings come in regularly every day, this would be the course of the business. The buildings are in fact, a market to the country boats to resort to every day to sell their herrings, as far as the quantity above mentioned extends.

Calculation of the expences of this business, supposing 100,000 herrings cured every day.

Buildings, 500l. interest of that sum, at 10 per cent. - 50 0 0

This high rate of interest is reckoned on account of the precariousness of all herring-fisheries, as they frequent and forsake seas and bays; and if they were to quit Loch Swilly, the buildings would be of little use but to let for a trifle as cabbins.

18 Boats, at 10l. - - - 180 0 0

90 stands of nets, at 40s. — 180 0 0

£. 360 0 0

Interest, at 6 per cent. - - - - 21 12 0

Repairing the boats, 40s. each - - - - 36 0 0

Ditto nets, they last but two seasons - - - - 90 0 0

Wages of 90 fishermen, at 1s. 6d. a day, 8 weeks - 324 0 0

£. 521 12 0

N. B. At this expence of fishing, the prime cost of the herrings, suppose 6000 taken by each boat a night, is 2s. per 1000: but it must be obvious that the boats cannot always go out, neither will hired men fish for

their

their masters as they will for themselves. Hence the merchant may find it more advantageous to buy at 4s. 2d. than to depend entirely on his own boats.

£. 521 12 0

Wages of 52 men, at 1s. 1d. a day, 8 weeks	135	4	0
18 boats, 108,000 herrings a day, are 5,184,000; gutting at 5d. per 1000	108	0	0
Salt 10 tons per 100,000, or 518 tons, at 2l. 10s. for the curing house.	1295	0	0
Salt 246 tons, 17 cwt. at 2l. 10s. for the barreling house	617	2	6
9,874 Barrels, at 8 ton, or 64 barrels to the 1000 staves, will require 154,000 staves, at 7l.	1078	0	0
164,000 hoops, at 3os.	246	0	0
Making 1s. 2d. per barrel	575	19	8
7 nails to every barrel, which is allowing one for accidents, 58,000, at 2s. 2d.	6	5	8
Prime cost, 9s. 5d. a barrel.	1976	5	4

Freight of 9,874 barrels to West Indies, at 3s. 4d.	4653	3	10
Duty on export, with gaugers fees, 9d. a barrel	1645	13	4
	370	5	6

Insurance and commission, 3 per cent. on that sum	6669	2	8
	200	1	5

Interest on that sum 8 months, at 6 per cent	6869	4	1
	274	15	2

7143 19 3

The price in the West Indies rises from 20s. to 30s. sterling a barrel.

Average 25s.—9,874 barrels at that rate	12342	10	0
Deduct expences	7143	19	3

Profit	£. 5198	10	9
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But as the herrings are not always to be taken in this manner, that is, 6000 a night by the merchants boats; it will be necessary to calculate the business in the more common way of carrying it on, by buying them of the country boats, at 4s. 2d. per 1000.

Interest as before	50	0	0
Purchase of 5,184,000, at 4s. 2d. per 1000	1080	0	0

£. 1130 0 0

								1130	0	0
Labour	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	135	4	0
Gutting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	108	0	0
Salt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1912	2	6
Barrels	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1976	5	4
Prime cost	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£. 5261	11	10
Freight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1645	6	8
Duty	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	370	5	6
								7277	4	0
Insurance and commission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	218	6	0
								7495	10	0
Interest on that sum, at 6 per cent. for 8 months	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	299	17	2
								7795	7	2
Prime cost in West Indies 15s. 9½d. a barrel.										
Sell at	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12342	10	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7796	7	2
Profit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4546	2	10
4546, on the expences of 7796, is 58 per cent.—bounty										
of 2s. a barrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	987	8	0
								£. 5533	10	10

HERE appears a very noble profit ; but fishing upon paper is an easier business than upon Loch Swilly ; and it is necessary to observe, that the merchant who engages in this fishery, must provide, if he fishes himself, boats, nets, salt, barrels, and stores, all which must be ready, though not a herring should come into the Loch, or though storms prevent a boat going out. He must also have the sum ready in his counting house for all the other expences, in case the fishery proves successful, which upon the whole are circumstances that make great profits necessary, or the business would not be undertaken at all.

THE investment of 8000l. in this fishery, employs

	Men	Ships	Tons.
Fishermen	90	0	0
Gutters	40	0	0
Sundries	52	0	0
To bring the staves, a ship of 200 tons, seamen	16	1	200
764 tons of salt, 3 ships	50	3	764
9,874 barrels to the West Indies, 1234 tons, 12 ships	120	12	1234
	368	16	2198

Besides boat-building, net making, and coopers. And the 90 fishermen are a sure nursery of seamen; much of this great system of employment is in the depth of winter, when not demanded for other purposes.

AUGUST 8th, left Derry, and took the road by Raphoe, to the Rev. Mr. Golding's at Clonleigh, who favoured me with much valuable information. The view of Derry, at the distance of a mile or two, is the most picturesque of any place I have seen; it seems to be built on an island of bold land rising from the river, which spreads into a fine basin at the foot of the town; the adjacent country hilly, the scene wants nothing but wood to make it a perfect landscape. Passing Raphoe, found the husbandry in the neighbourhood of Clonleigh as follows. The soil is for the most part light loamy land, with single large stones, and very wet with springs, with considerable tracts of bog. Rents are from 15s. to 20s. the Cunningham acre, and some to 25s. and about towns some up to 30s. and 40s. Average rent of the whole county not more than 1s. Farms vary from 5 to 40 acres, in general 25 or 30, very many from 7 to 10. They are lessened by the farmers dividing them among their children. They generally sow flax, dress and spin it in their families. When cloth sells well, they get it wove by the weavers, who are also little farmers. At other times they sell the flax in yarn at market, many of them never having any woven at all. The spinners in a little farm are the daughters and a couple of maid servants, that are paid 30s. a half year, and the common bargain is, to do a hank a day of 3 or 4 hank yarn. Much more than half the flax of the country is worked into cloth; a great deal of flax is imported at Derry, this country not raising near enough for its own manufacture: their own is much the finest. Their tillage is exceeding bad, the land not half ploughed, and they like to have much grass among the corn for improving the fodder. Their course is;

1. Potatoes on 3 years lay. 2. Barley 10 barrels. 3. Oats 5 to 12 barrels. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay for weeds 3 years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Flax 480 lb. clean scutched, or 30 stone.

THEY plant 14 measures, each 2 bushels of potatoe-feed an acre, the crop from 8 to 12 score measures. The flax I saw was nothing but weeds and rubbish of all kinds, yet the crop itself had an appearance of being good, as if the land was not to blame. As to manuring, they use very little more than the trifle they make in their stable and cow-house. A few use lime, but not many; the price is 10d. to 13d. a barrel: a little woollen cloth weaved, but not near enough to cloath themselves. They import a great deal from Galway. Land sells at 24 and 26 year's purchase.

chafe. Rents are very much raised; but they are fallen within 4 or 5 years; in 40 years conjecture that they are doubled. Tythes are compounded. Oats pay 5s. Barley 7s. Potatoes, flax, and hay, 5s. In some places potatoes free. Leases usually for 3 lives. Lord Abercorn only for twenty-one years and no lives, yet his estate is well cultivated. The farmers generally re-let some of their lands to cottars at a great increase of rent. The poor people live upon oatmeal, milk, potatoes, and herrings; but the poorest eat very little meat. A farmer of 10l. a year will have a good meal of beef or bacon every Sunday: in general they all live much better than they did formerly. I remarked that the labourers carried with them to their work an oat cake and a bottle of milk. All their milk is kept till sower, till which they do not make butter. Scarce any such thing as wheeled cars in the country, they are all sliding ones: a wheeled one 35s. a sliding one 2s. 6d. A plough 10s. 6d. A harrow of wood 1s. 1d. The fuel all turf, and much of it made by hand; a poor man's is 100 barrels a year, and will cost him 35s. The common people exceedingly addicted to thieving.

BUILDING a cabin 5l. they are all of stone, which is plentiful: clay-mortar instead of lime. Almost all the farmers have a man servant at 1l. 10s. to 2l. the half-year entirely employed in the farm. A farmer of 10l. a year always one. Very little cloth made farther than Ballymaffey, but all over Donnegal much spinning.

THE county of Tyrone is various; the finest parts are about Dungannon, Stewart's Town, &c. on Lake Neagh. From Strabane to Omagh much good; from Omagh to Ardmagh all cultivated. From Strabane to Dungannon almost all mountains: rent of the whole 4s. The bishop of Raphoe is a considerable farmer, and cultivates and hoes turneps. The dean has also done the same.

MR. Golding has used much soapers waste, at 4d. a measure of two bushels, laid them on cold morassy soils, and found the benefit very great; it brought up quantities of red clover, and destroys moss effectually. Turneps would do excellently here, as beef rises from one-penny three farthings in november, to three-pence halfpenny and four-pence in april. Mr. Golding has used scotch cabbages for bullocks; generally fats 2 beasts every year on them. Sows the seed early in august, and transplants them in april and may for succession; has had them in full perfection in february and march; has tried spring sowings, but they do not come to more than 5 or 6 lb. whereas the august sown plants rise to 35lb. He has also fed sheep upon potatoes, buys them very forward in october, and puts them to his after-grass to keep their flesh, and in the severe weather gives them the potatoes with great success. He took the hint from seeing the sheep walk over the potatoe grounds; and scratching up the remaining
roots

roots in hard weather. The only evil resulting from the emigrations was, the money they carried away with them, which was considerable.

AUGUST 9th, to Convoy, where I was so unfortunate as to find Mr. Montgomery from home; passing on to Ballymaffey, I met that gentleman's oxen, drawing sledge cars of turf, single with collars, and worked to the full as well as the horses. They deserved wheels however. On the other side of Ballymaffey, it is curious to observe, how, as you advance towards the mountains, cultivation gradually declines, it is chequered with heath, till at last the heath is chequered with cultivation, spots of green, on the mountain sides, surrounded by the dreary wilderness; but there are no inclosures. The waste is exceedingly improvable, all the tract on the left before I came to the lake, and also beyond it, might easily be made excellent; it is bog, with a great fall every where, extends beyond the lake to the mountain foot, and is from 10 to 20 feet deep; rises in perfect hills, yet all bog. Lime is to be had here from 6d. to 8d. a barrel six miles off. I had two accounts, one of 6d. and the other of 8d. but clayey gravel is to be had every where on the spot. The road leads across the bog, and is made of it. I remarked in several places, little bogs, forming spots of moss growing on the water, and in some places rotting, with other plants growing out of that. Carrs may go three or four times a day for lime, and bring three barrels at a time. I was the more attentive to this bog, because it appeared to me to be one of the most improvable I had seen, and the size of it makes it an object worth the attention of some spirited improver; it is not every where that so decisive a fall is met with for rendering the drains effective; the distance from lime is advantageous. Suppose a car, 1s. a day, and to bring eight barrels, carriage of it then is $1\frac{1}{2}$ d a barrel, and suppose the lime $7\frac{1}{2}$ d, in all 9d, 160, at that price, comes to 6l. at which rate I am clear it would answer to lay any quantity on to such bogs as these. I had often heard of roads being made over such quaking bogs, that they move under a carriage, but could scarcely credit it; I was, however, convinced now, for in several places, every step the horse set, moved a full yard of the ground in perfect heaves. Got to a miserable cabin on the road, the widow Barclay's, which I had been assured was an exceeding good inn, but escaped without a cold, or the itch.

AUGUST 10th, got to Alexander Montgomery's, Esq; at Mount Charles, Lord Conyngham's agent, by breakfast; found he was so deeply engaged in the fisheries, on this coast, that I could not have got into better hands; with great civility he gave me every intelligence I wished; as an introduction to it, he took me a ride to the bays on the coast, where the fisheries are most carried on, particularly Inver bay, Macswine's bay, and Killibeg's bay. The coast is perfectly sawed by bays; the lands are high and bold, particularly about Killibegs, where the scenery;

scenery is exceedingly romantic, and if the multiplicity of hills upon hills, and rocks, were planted, would be one of the most beautiful spots that can be imagined. The state of the fisheries may be judged from the number of boats employed in the several stations :

	1775.	1776.
Inverbay	52	72
Killibegs and Fintia	50	60
Tilin and Tawney	47	47
Bruckles	20	25
Boylagh and Rosses	50	50
Cloghanlee	18	18
Dunfanachly	20	25
Sheephaven	30	30
	<hr/> 287	<hr/> 327

For a comparison, I insert the following list of seafaring men in Ireland, 1695.

	Seamen.	Fishermen.	Boatmen.	Total.	Papists.
Baltimore	9	188	84	281	268
Belfast, and Carickfergus	194	62	12	268	2
Coleraine	48	233	169	450	209
Cork	58	34	91	183	111
Donaghadee, whereof } Masters, 35	283	28	2	313	0
Drogheda	22	56	0	78	61
Dublin	42	271	99	412	276
Dundalk and Carlingford	2	90	0	92	51
Galway	42	42	88	172	140
Killibegs	5	120	4	129	78
Kinfale	104	79	45	225	106
Limerick	13	0	137	150	132
Londonderry	56	46	22	124	36
Rosfe	20	85	77	182	148
Sligo	11	68	8	87	60
Strangford	69	159	12	240	78
Tralee and Kerry	2	165	0	167	163
Waterford	36	83	50	169	143
Wexford	80	346	0	426	399
Wicklow	22	49	5	76	58
Youghall	40	114	46	200	135
Total	<hr/> 1158	<hr/> 2315	<hr/> 951	<hr/> 4424	<hr/> 2654

In

IN Inverbay only of the above, there is a summer fishery for herrings, which begins the latter end of July, and ends the beginning of September. All the other places are winter fisheries, which begin in October, and end early in January, lasting eight weeks. Every boat costs 18l. to 20l. and has six shares of nets, at 3l. to 3l. 3s. each: the nets all made of hemp, from the Baltic, which cost, dressed, 8d. a pound, fit for spinning: 33lb. of it in a share of nets: 4d. a pound paid for spinning it, or 11s. a share: weaving the nets 1d. a yard for one *fling*, or 63 meshes deep, 200 yards running measure, at that depth, in each share. Six hands in each boat, a skipper, and five men. In the common practice, a boat is divided into seven shares, the boat one; each net, half a one, and each man half: in which way they divide the produce, which vibrates between 10l and 10cl. average 35l. or per week 10s. a man. These boats belong, in general, to the common inhabitants of the country, farmers, &c. The other way of carrying the fishery on is, that those who have vessels on the bounty, fit them out at their own expence, and pay the skipper 1l. 11s. 6d. a month, and the common men 20s. a month; each a pair of trowsers, at 4s. 6d. feed them with as much potatoes, beef, and pork, as they will eat, and plenty of whiskey, which all together, comes to 20s. a month. The repairs of the boat and tackling are large, for all are built of fir, they come to 3l. per annum per boat, and the nets, Mr. Montgomery uses two seasons, and then sells them for half price. In this manner of fishing, the boats catch each, on an average, 100,000 herrings, which is 1600 herrings a night, but the common boats of the country, not so well fitted up, take only 80,000. They are cured in bulk, that is packed into the holds of the vessels, from 20 to 100 tons each, and are sold all over the coast of Ireland. The quantity of salt necessary to the 80,000 herrings, which each boat catches, is 7 tons, at the price of 2l. 14s. a ton; this is the price at which Mr. Montgomery sells, who has established considerable salt-works, making 450 tons annually, and has by this means reduced the salt, from 3l. 10s to 5l. down to 2l. 14s. The vessels employed on this fishery, for the bounty, are from 30 to 100 tons. A vessel of 100 tons, carries in bulk 500,000 herrings, or the produce of five boats; these calculations are in reference only to the average of nights and seasons; Mr. Nesbit's vessel, of 60 tons, has been loaded by four boats, in three nights, and Mr. Montgomery has taken 100,000 in one night, with two nets, but these are extraordinary instances. The parliamentary bounty is 20s. a ton, but there must be four men for the first 20 tons, and one for every 8 tons over, the owners of the vessels employ no more boats, than to enable them, by the crews, to draw the bounty; and what these men are not able to get, they buy of the country boats, at an average of 5s. a 1000, which all are clear, answers much better than having boats of their own.

Account of a vessel of 100 tons.

Building 2 boats, at 19l.	-	-	-	£. 38	0	0
N. B. The vessel of 100 tons, will be navigated by 7 men, as there must be 14, by the act, to draw the bounty; 7 men must be supplied by boats, which may be called 2.						
Nets	-	-	-	38	0	0
The boats are 19 to 21 feet keel, 7 feet 4 broad, and 3 feet 4 in depth. The nets are 120 fathom long at the rope, and 7 feet deep.				76	0	0
Building, rigging, and fitting out a vessel of 100 tons, 700l.						
Interest of that sum, at 6 per cent.	-	-	-	4	10	0
Repairing of two boats	-	-	-	6	0	0
Ditto nets	-	-	-	4	10	0
Wages of twelve men, at 20s. two months	£. 24	0	0			
Board ditto	-	-	-	24	0	0
Trowfers	-	-	-	2	12	0
Skippers extra	-	-	-	2	2	0
Purchase of 300,000 herrings, at 5s. N. B. The two boats are supposed to catch, each 100,000, remain therefore for the cargo 300,000	-	-	-	75	0	0
Forty tons of salt, at 54s.	-	-	-	108	0	0
Packing, salting, &c. four men, at 1s. a day, 48 days	-	-	-	9	12	2
				260	6	0
If vessels are hired to carry them to markets, the price is 5d. a 100 for freight, or 4s. 2d. a 1000, and £. 104 3s. 2d. per cargo for 100 tons						
	-	-	-	104	3	2
Insurance, 1½ per cent. on 300l.	-	-	-	364	9	2
Supercargo	-	-	-	4	10	0
				20	0	0
				388	19	2
Interest on that sum for six months, at 6 per cent.	-	-	-	11	15	0
				400	14	2
At the ports they sell from 10s. to 35s. per 1000, on an average at 23s. a 1000, 500,000 at that price						
Expences	-	-	-	575	0	0
				400	14	2
Profit 43½ per cent.	-	-	-	174	5	10
And						

And this account extends only six months from the first expenditure of the money, to the receipt from the cargo. If the vessel is the merchant's own, then the account will be as follows :

Expences as above	-	-	-	£. 260	6	0
A vessel of 100 tons, 700l. Interest of which,						
at 6 per cent.	-	-	42	0	0	
A year's pay of the captain, at 4l. a month			48	0	0	
Six men, at 30s.	-	-	99	0	0	
Repairs and outsets, 10s. a ton	-		50	0	0	
Stores for seven men, at 15s. a month			63	0	0	
Per annum	-	-	302	0	0	
Which for five months	-	-	125	10	0	
Deduct the bounty		100	0	0		
Fees and charges		5	0	0	95	0 0
						30 10 0
Expences	-	-	-	-	290	16 0
Insurance cargo, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.		4	10	0		
Ditto on ship	-	-	10	10	0	
					15	0 0
					305	16 0
Interest on that sum, for six months, at 6 per cent.	-				9	3 0
					314	19 0
Produce	-	-	-	-	575	0 0
Expences	-	-	-	-	314	19 0
Profit	-	-			260	1 0

Here appears to be a loss of 28 per cent. by accepting the bounty : but the explanation of this lies in the difficulty of being sure of a vessel on freight, this is not always certain, which induces them to build, though freighting those of other people is so evidently cheaper. Respecting the mode of taking the fish, the boats, as before mentioned, are provided with all the accoutrements necessary ; and here it will be proper to mention an improvement of Mr. Montgomery's, by which he has saved greatly : in common the nets are tanned with bark, but he mixes tar and fish oil, 5 parts of tar, and one of oil, melted together, to incorporate thoroughly, and while quite hot, puts the nets into a tub, and pours it upon them, in quantity sufficient to wet them ; draws it off by a hole

at the bottom of the tub, immediately, in order that too much of it may not stick, and make them clammy, which would be the case, if it cooled on them; at the bottom of the tub, should be an open false bottom, or the nets will stop the hole, and the mixture will not run off free enough. By means of this simple operation, the nets are prevented from rotting, and the fishermen are saved the trouble of ever spreading and drying them, which in common is done every day, and is a great slavery in the short days; the benefit has been found so great, that almost all the country has come into it, and every net on the coast would, this year, have been done, but the scarcity of the tar, owing to the american war, prevented it. In working the nets also, Mr. Montgomery has made improvements; he has found that corking the line under the strapped buoys is wrong, as it keeps it in an uneven direction; he has a vacancy of corks for three fathom on each side the buoy lines, but the middle spaces corked thick, which he finds to answer exceedingly well. He remarks that the fishery suffers very much, for want of an admiral being appointed, as in Scotland, to hear and determine differences; there is no order or regularity kept up, but much disturbance and loss for want of it. In the sale of the herrings, the merchant suffers greatly, by the competition of the Gottenburg and scotch fishery. At Corke, great quantities of Gottenburg herrings are imported, which, though they pay a duty of 4s. a barrel, yet, as 2s. 4d. $\frac{1}{2}$ is drawn back on the re-exportation, and with an advantage of packing the herrings, of 20 Gottenburg barrels, into 25 Irish ones, and consequently having the drawback on 25, though the duty is only paid on 20, with all these circumstances, great quantities of them are sent to the West Indies, to the prejudice of the irish fishery. Another mischief is, that though there is a bounty of 2s. 4d. a barrel exported, yet such are the fees, and old duty, that the merchant receives only 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and that so clogged and perplexed with forms and delays, that not many attempt to claim it. The drawback on the foreign herrings is paid immediately on the merchants oath, but the irish bounty not till the ship returns, with I know not how many affidavits and certificates from consuls and merchants, it may be supposed perplexing when it is not claimed. The scotch have a bounty per barrel, on exportation, which they draw on sending them to Ireland, by which means they are enabled, with the assistance of a higher bounty on their vessels, to undersell the irish fishery in their own markets, while the irish merchant is precluded from exporting to either Scotland or England; this is a very hard case, and certainly may be said to be one of the oppressions on the trade of Ireland, which a legislature, acting on liberal and enlarged principles, ought to repeal. The trade of smoaking herrings, which is considerable in England, might be carried on here, to much greater advantage, if there was wood to do it with. In the Isle of Man they have smoak houses, supplied with wood from Wales; it is a strange neglect, that

that the landlords do not plant some of the monstrous wastes in this country with quick growing copse wood, which would, in five or six years, enable them to begin the trade. The plenty of cod on this coast is very great, quite from Hornhead to Mount Charles, in winter, when the herrings set in, and may then be taken in any quantities. Some wherries come for cod, ling, glaßen, &c. all which are plentiful; but on the banks they are to be taken in summer, and in the winter they follow the herrings.

IN all the bays on the coast, in march and april, there are many whales, the bone fort; they appear on the coast in february, and go off to the northward the beginning of may; sometimes they are in great plenty, and in november to february, there are many spermaceti whales; this is what induced Thomas Nesbit, Esq; of Kilmacredon, to enter into a scheme for establishing a fishery on the coast, and in executing it, was the inventor of the gun harpoon. Mr. Nesbit first used the gun harpoon, for killing whales, in the year 1759; he was induced to try this, from great difficulties he met with among the harpooners, who he had engaged for the fishery; in this year he began it, with firing lances at them, after they were struck by the hand, in order to kill them the sooner. From this he passed, in 1761, to firing the harpoon itself from the gun. He was then engaged with a company, for the purpose of carrying on the fishery, with several persons in Ireland, England, and the West-Indies. In the year 1758, he went to London, and bought a vessel of 140 tons, and engaged persons to come over as harpooners. In 1759, one whale was caught by the hand harpoon. In 1760, the Greenland harpooners, dutch, english, scotch, and danes, were at it, and not one fish taken. This year there were several Greenland ships on the coast, not one of whom caught a fish. In 1761, with the gun harpoon, killed three whales, and got them all; after which he every year killed some, except one year, when he killed 42 sun fish in one week, each of which yielded from half a ton, to a ton of oil. Mr. Nesbit has since given it up, not from want of success in the mode of taking the whales, but from being put, by his partners, for want of knowledge in the business, to useless expences. From many experiments, he brought the operation to such perfection, that, for some years, he never missed a whale, nor failed of holding her by the harpoon: he had for some time ill success, from firing when too near, for the harpoon does not then fly true, but at 14 or 15 yards distance, which is what he would chuse, it flies strait; has killed several at 25 yards.

When the harpoon is fired into the whale, it sinks to the bottom with great velocity, but immediately comes up, and lays on the surface, lashing it with tail and fins for half or three quarters of an hour, in which time he fires lances into it, to dispatch it, and when killed, it sinks for 48 hours, where he leaves a boat, or a cask, as a buoy to mark the place, to be ready there when
the

the whale rises, that they may tow it into harbour, according as the wind lays. To carry on this business here, he knows from experience, that nothing more would be wanting, than a ship of 130 tons, with 100 tons of cask : three boats, with each 8 men, six to row, one to steer, and one with the gun, with ropes, harpoon, lances, &c. the whole very much inferior to the expence of equipping a Greenlandman. I have been the more particular in giving an account of this undertaking, because the society for the encouragement of arts, &c. at London, has long since given premiums for the invention of the gun harpoon, supposing it to be original.

IN respect to the linen manufacture, it consists in all this country in spinning yarn only. Very little cloth woven here, except for the use of the people. They raise flax enough for their spinning in years when seed is plentiful and dry seasons, but some are so wet as almost to spoil the crop : all the women and children of ten years old and upwards spin. They very seldom let the seed ripen ; they have tried it, but found it did not answer so well as foreign seed. It is computed that there are two spinners in every family, who spin about one hank a day, or a spangle and a half a week ; the medium is 2 lb. to the spangle, or 4 hanks, which is half a pound of flax each day. A woman will earn, by spinning, according to the price of flax and yarn, from 2d. to 6d. but in general 2'd. or 3d. besides doing little family trifles. Most of the yarn goes to Derry.

THE soil about Mount Charles is various ; a great deal of stiff blue clay, which is perfectly tenacious of water. Much bog, and a great range of high mountains near it, which break the clouds with a westerly wind, and occasion much rain. Rents, per acre, are from 5s. to 10s. 6d. arable, some up to 1l. 1s. wastes 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. inclosed. Mountains pay some rent, but not by the acre. The whole county through does not let for above 2s. 6d. There are very great extents of mountain all the way from Mount Charles to Ards, by Loch Fin, which is 30 irish miles in a right line ; it is a range of mountains, but most of the valleys are slightly cultivated, though corn does very bad in them from the wetness of the climate. The farms rise from 5 or 6 acres to 30 cultivated ; but mountain farms are more extensive. The courses : 1. Potatoes, manured for with dung, or by the coast with sea weed ; get good crops, and from the sea weed rather better than from dung. 2. Barley, if the land is good. 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for grass ; very few sow grass seeds 2 or 3 years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Oats. 3. Lay out for grass 2 or 3 years.

UPON dry land they use lime, which is sold at 6d. to 8d. the barrel of 28 gallons, or 3 bushels and a half, but generally burn it themselves. There is lime-stone at St. John's Point, and other parts towards Killibegs, and beyond it to the westward. They burn it with turf, which is plentiful every where. They have grey marle near Donnegal, and find a good effect from the use of it. Upon the dry mountains they have flocks of sheep, not large ones ; but every poor man keeps some, the wool their profit,

profit, and sell them at 2 or three year old. In stocking a farm they look not farther than having the horses and cows. Land sells at 21 or 22 years purchase, rack rent; it sold better from 1762 to 1768, and the rents are fallen. For two years they have been at a stand; but the fall has not been felt near the coast, the herring fishery keeping them up. The farmers here in general pay half a year's rent with fish, and half with yarn. Tythes are generally compounded in the gross. The middle men were common, but not now. The poor people live upon potatoes and herrings 9 months in the year along the coast, and upon oat bread and milk the other three. Very little butter, and scarce any meat. They all keep cows, most of them a pig or two, and a few hens, and all a cat or a dog. No tea. They are in general circumstances not improved. Rent of a cabin, with a garden and a cow's grafs, 20 to 30s.

A farm of 20 acres.

1½. Potatoes. 1. Flax. 5. Oats. 1. Barley. 2. Mowing ground. 9½. Feeding. Rent 10l. Six cows, 2 horses, 6 sheep, 2 pigs. People increase. But little emigration. Religion more than half catholic. Rise in the price of labour 1d. a day in 20 years; and in provisions, one-third in that time. The following is a return of population, procured by Colonel Burton's orders, on a part of Lord Conyngham's estates.

	No. of heads of families.	Wives.	Sons grown up to 14.	Other chil- dren.	Men servants	Maid-servants	Total.	Protestants.	Papists.
Manor of Mount Charles.									
County of Donne- gal 15,000 acres.	601	521	322	1478	127	105	3154	1138	2016
Manor of Maghery- more ditto county.	699						3887	737	3150
Particulars of part of Magherymore.	367	320	244	1047	45	42	2065	302	1763
Manor of Shana Golden county of Limerick, 4,500 acres —	282						1460		

Cars generally sliding ones, on account of the hills.

EXPENCE of building a mud cabbin 3l. of stone and slate 40l. In different places in Lord Conyngham's estate in Boylagh are many lead mines mixed with silver, none of them wrought; miners who have examined them say there is much silver in the ore. The lead is apparent in many breaches of the rocks.

AUGUST 11th, left Mount Charles, and passing through Donnegal, took the road to Ballyshannon; came presently to several beautiful landscapes, swelling hills, cultivated with the bay flowing up among them: they want nothing but more wood, and are beautiful without it. Afterwards likewise to the left, they rise in various outlines, and die away insensibly into one another. When the road leads to a full view of the bay of Donnegal, these smiling spots, above which the proud mountains rear their heads, are numerous, the hillocks of almost regular circular forms; they are very pleasing, from form, verdure, and the water breaking in their vales.

BEFORE I got to Ballyshannon, remarked a bleach green, which indicates weaving in the neighbourhood. Viewed the salmon-leap at Ballyshannon, which is let for 400l. a year. The scenery of it is very beautiful; it is a fine fall, and the coast of the river very bold, consisting of perpendicular rocks, with grass of a beautiful verdure to the very edge: it projects in little promontories, which grow longer as they approach the sea, and open to give a fine view of the ocean. Before the fall in the middle of the river is a rocky island, on which is a curing house, instead of the turret of a ruined castle, for which it seems formed. The town prettily situated on the rising ground on each side the river.—To Sir James Caldwell's; crossing the bridge, stopped for a view of the river, which is a very fine one, and was delighted to see the salmon jump, to me an unusual sight: the water was perfectly alive with them. Rising the hill, look back on the town; the situation beautiful; the river presents a noble view. Come to Belleek, a little village, with one of the finest waterfalls I remember any where to have seen; viewed it from the bridge. The river in a very broad sheet comes from behind some wood, and breaks over a bed of rocks, not perpendicular but shelving, in various directions, and foams away under the arches; after which it grows more silent, and gives a beautiful bend under a rock, crowned by a fine bank of wood. Reached Castle Caldwell at night, where Sir James Caldwell received me with a politeness and cordiality that will make me long remember it with pleasure.

AUGUST 12th. The following account of the husbandry around Castle Caldwell, Sir James favoured me with. The soil in the vale to Belleek is a yellow clay, 1 to 2 spit deep on a lime-stone rock; the whole interspersed with bog and morasses. Large tracts uncultivated. Rents vary from

from 15s. to 20s. an acre cultivated, but mountain and mountain sides are not measured; wherever the plough goes, will yield 7s. at the lowest. In the mountains they pay but 3s. for the summer food of a cow; and for a horse 4s. 6d. The county of Fermanagh may be divided into 6 parts; one-sixth the lake at no rent. Mountains and bogs two sixths, the rest of the county at 12s.

THE course of crops is; 1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley or flax. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out for grafs. Wherever there are spots of meadow, they are mown. Great numbers of farms are taken in partnership in *Rundale*; indeed the general course is so, upon a farm of 100 acres, there will be 4, 5, or 6 families: but families will take such small spots as 5 or 6 acres. Farms in general rise from 5 acres to 3 or 400; but all the large ones are stock farms; in general none so high as twenty: all in *Rundale*, partnership or stock. Many of the latter part mountain, part arable, and these are the only farms of substance in the country. One of 80l. a year will require 4 or 500l. to stock it. These farmers buy year olds—for instance; 20; he buys in 20 year olds every year, and every year sells 20 four year olds: he gives 30s. each, and sells at 5l. 10s. or 6l. and this he reckons a reasonable profit. Also 3 and 2 year old heifers that have missed the bull, keep them through the winter, and sell them in may, and get 18s. to 20s. for wintering them on coarse grafs without any fodder. In summer they feed them all on mountains. Those who buy the mist heifers are farmers in Monaghan and Cavan, on coarse farms, who turn them on the mountains, give them the bull, and sell them out in the spring to the weaving farmers in the linen country, who change their stock.

THE measures here are by pecks and barrels; the weight of the peck of potatoes in Ballyshannon is 5 stone, 4 lb. and 10 pecks, make a barrel: in the country they give 6 stones. The acre the plantation measure. Of potatoes, which they set all in the trenching way, they plant 4 barrels an acre, and get on an average 7 or 8 for one, that is, 32 barrels an acre. The price is 8s. a barrel on a medium, or 12l. 16s. an acre; but it is obvious that this peck is a measure of their own. They manure generally for them with dung; but often with lime and bog mud mixed, and burnt clay, which they find does very well. In the county of Tyrone, towards Ardmagh and Dungannon, they will bring lime-stone 14 or 15 miles, burn it, and sprinkle their potatoe land with it to prevent the black rot. Rent of Tyrone on an average 7s.

OF barley they sow 20 stone; the barrel of barley is 25 stone, and of malt 20. An acre on an average will yield 10 barrels, at 16 stone. Of oats they sow a barrel, at 20 stone, and get 8 for one. Of bere they sow the same, and get 9 barrels; barley sells better than bere generally; for flax they plough once on potatoe land. The expence of an acre they reckon,

X

Rent

Rent	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	15	0
County cefs	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	3
Tythe modus	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	8
Seed, 40 gallons, at 1s. 6d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
One ploughing	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	5
Clodding and ftones 4 women	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	4
Weeding 6 women	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
Pulling 12 women a day	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
Watering 3 men and 1 horfe	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Graffing 6 women	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
Lifting and carrying, 2 women and 2 men, and 1 horfe	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Drying, 2 women and 12 load turf	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	8
Beetling, 24 women	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
Scutching 1d. a lb.									

£. 5 13 . 4

PRICE of lime at the kiln 6d. a barrel. Sir James Caldwell has his stone quarried, carried, broke and burnt, and drawn 100 yards, for 4d. a barrel labour; six score horse loads of turf cost 4s. cutting and sawing, and leading by water, costs 5s. more, which 6 score loads will burn at the rate of a load and a half a barrel. They plough all with horses, 2 or 3 horses abreast.

LAND sells, at rack rent, at 20 to 24 years purchase: has not fallen. Rents are fallen in 5 or 6 years 2s. an acre. There is a great deal of letting lands in the grofs to middle men, who re-let it to others; these middle men are called *terny begs*, or *little landlords*, which prevail very much at present. These men make a great profit by this practice. The people in all the neighbourhood increase very fast. They are all in general much more industrious, and in better circumstances than they were some years ago. Their food, for three-fourths of the year, chiefly potatoes and milk, and the other quarter oatmeal: in the winter they have herrings. They have all a bellyful of food whatever it is, as they told me themselves; and their children eat potatoes all day long, even those of a year old will be roasting them. All keep cows, and some cocks and hens, but no turkeys or geese. Six people, a man, his wife and 4 children, will eat 18 stone of potatoes a week, or 252 lb. but 40lb. of oatmeal will serve them. Rent of a cabbin, garden, and one acre, 20s. a cow's grafs 30s. a cow requires one acre and a half for summer; and they buy a little hay for winter, and give the cow small potatoes and cabbage-leaves, &c.

THE common people are remarkably given to thieving, particularly grafs, timber, and turf, and they bring up their children to *beking* potatoes, that is, artfully raising them, taking out the best roots, and then replanting them, so that the owner is perfectly deceived when he takes up the crop. A poor man's turf from 15s. to 20s. Living is exceedingly cheap here, besides the common provisions, which I have every where registered, wild ducks are only 3d. and

and powder and shot: Plover, 1½d. and ditto: woodcocks, 1d. and ditto: Snipes, 1½d. and ditto; teal, 2d. and ditto, and widgeon the same; falmon, 1½d. a lb. trout, perch, pike, and bream, so plentiful as to have no price. Sir James Caldwell has taken 17 cwt. of fish, bream and pike, in one day: cod, 3s. a dozen: whiting, from 8d. to 1s. a dozen: herrings, from 3d. to 9d. per 100. lobsters, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. a dozen: oysters, 6d. to 20d. a 100. eels, 2s. a dozen: crabs, 1s. to 2s. a dozen: wages, 6l. dairy-maids, and others, 4l. There is very little weaving in this country, except what is for their own use, but spinning is universal in all the cabbins. They receive for spinning spangle yarn, or four hanks, 1s. 2d. a spangle, and they will spin it in four days. Country servants are hired at 3l. a year, who engage to do the work of the house, and spin a hank, that is a dozen a day, there are 12 cuts to the dozen.

IN the mountain tracts, the rents are paid by yarn, young cattle, and a little butter. They spin a good deal of wool, which they make into druggets, the warp of tow-yarn, and the weft of wool. The following particulars of 34 of Sir James's labourers will shew the state of the poor in this neighbourhood, respecting their stock, potatoe land, and quantity of flax seed sown:

No.	Rent.	Cows.	Souls.	Po:	Flax Galls:
1	3 17 6	7	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
2	6 0 0	6	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
3	3 7 6	7	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
4	2 0 0	3	5	$\frac{1}{4}$	3½
5	2 8 9	2	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	5
6	3 0 0	5	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	7
7	1 10 0	0	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	7
8	2 5 0	2	8	$\frac{1}{4}$	3
9	4 0 0	3	10	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
10	4 0 0	4	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
11	1 8 0	4	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
12	3 15 0	6	5	$\frac{1}{4}$	3
13	1 8 0	4	5	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
14	1 8 0	4	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
15	2 10 0	5	9	$\frac{1}{4}$	6
16	2 16 8	6	9	$\frac{1}{4}$	7
17	2 0 0	1	6	$\frac{1}{2}$ R	4
18	3 8 3	2	8	$\frac{1}{4}$	4
19	3 15 6	3	9	$\frac{1}{4}$	7
20	5 16 3	4	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	4
21	1 5 0	3	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	5
22	2 2 0	3	3	$\frac{1}{4}$	4
23	3 15 0	2	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	8
24	1 17 0	3	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	3
25	1 8 6	2	3	$\frac{1}{4}$	5
26	1 1 0	2	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	1½
27	3 10 0	3	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	10
28	3 0 0	3	7	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
29	1 8 0	3	2	$\frac{1}{4}$	3
30	1 10 0	3	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	1
31	1 11 0	3	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
32	3 0 0	4	8	$\frac{1}{4}$	7
33	3 0 0	5	4	$\frac{1}{4}$	7
34	5 2 6	4	5	$\frac{1}{2}$	4
Totals		121	204	=	
Average		3½	= 6	=	

X 2

NOTHING

NOTHING can be more beautiful than the approach to Castle Caldwell; the promontories of thick wood, which shoot into Loch Earne, under the shade of a great ridge of mountains, have the finest effect imaginable: as soon as you are through the gates, turn to the left, about 200 yards to the edge of the hill, where the whole domain lies beneath the point of view. It is a promontory, three miles long, projecting into the lake, a beautiful assemblage of wood and lawn, one end a thick shade, the other grats, scattered with trees, and finishing with wood. A bay of the lake breaks into the eastern end, where it is perfectly wooded: there are six or seven islands among them, (that of *Bow* three miles long, and one and a half broad) yet they leave a noble sweep of water, bounded by the great range of the Turaw mountains. To the right, the lake takes the appearance of a fine river, with two large islands in it, the whole unites to form one of the most glorious scenes I ever beheld. Rode to the little hill above Michael Macguire's cabin; here the two great promontories of wood join in one, but open in the middle, and give a view of the lake, quite surrounded with wood, as if a distinct water; beyond are the islands, scattered over its face, nor can any thing be more picturesque than the bright silver surface of the water breaking through the dark shades of wood. Around the point on which we stood, the ground is rough and rocky, wild, and various, forming no bad contrast to the brilliant scenery in view. Crossing some of this undressed ground, we came to a point of a hill, above Paddy Macguire's cabin; here the lake presents great sheets of water, breaking beyond the woody promontories and islands, in the most beautiful manner. At the bottom of the declivity, at your feet, is a creek, and beyond it the lands of the domain, scattered with noble woods, that rise immediately from the water's edge; the house, almost obscured among the trees, seems a fit retreat from every care and anxiety of the world: a little beyond it the lawn, which is in front, shews its lively green among the deeper shades, and over the neck of land, which joins it to the promontory of wood, called *Ross a goul*, the lake seems to form a beautiful wood-lock'd basin, stretching its silver surface behind the stems of the single trees; beyond the whole, the mountainy rocks of Turaw, give a magnificent finishing. Near you, on every side, is wild tossed-about ground, which adds very much to the variety of the scene. From hence we passed to the hill in the mountain park, from whence the scenery is different; here you see a short promontory of wood, which projects into a bay, formed by two others, considerably more extensive, that is *Ross a goul* and *Ross-moor east*. The lake sketching away in vast reaches, and between numerous islands, almost as far as the eye can command. In the great creek, to the right, which flows up under the mountain of Turaw, are two beautiful islands, which, with the promontories, scattered with trees, give it the most agreeable variety.

IN another ride, Sir James gave me a view of that part of his domain which forms the promontory of Ross moor; coasted it, and crossed the hills: nothing can exhibit scenes of greater variety or more beauty. The islands on every side are of a different character; some are knots or tufts of wood, others shrubby. Here are single rocks, and there fine hills of lawn, which rise boldly from the water; the promontories form equal distinctions; some are of thick woods, which yield the darkest shade, others open groves, but every where the coast is high, and yields pleasing landscapes. From the east point of Ross moor, the scenery is truly delicious. The point of view is a high promontory of wood, lawn, &c. which projects so far into the lake as to give a double view of it of great extent. You look down a declivity on the lake which flows at your feet, and full in front is the wood of *Ross a goul*, at the extreme point of which is the temple: this wood is perfectly a deep shade, and has an admirable effect. At the other end it joins another woody promontory, in which the lawn opens beautifully among the scattered trees, and just admits a partial view of the house half obscured; carrying your eye a little more to the left, you see three other necks of wood, which stretch into the lake, generally giving a deep shade, but here and there admitting the water behind the stems and through the branches of the trees; all this bounded by cultivated hills, and those backed by distant mountains. Here are no objects which you do not command distinctly: none that do not add to the beauty of the scene, and the whole forming a landscape rich in the assemblage of a variety of beauties. The other reach of the lake varying under Ross moor is a different scene, bounded by the mountains and rocks of Turaw: to the right these reaches join the lake, which opens a fine expanse of water spotted with islands. It is upon the whole a scene strikingly agreeable. Little of the sublime, but the very range of beauty, gaiety, and pleasure, are the characters of the spot; nature makes no efforts here but those to please; the parts are of extreme varieties, yet in perfect unison with each other. Even the rocks of Turaw have a mildness in their aspect, and do not break the general effect by abrupt or rugged projections. It was with regret I turned my back on this charming scene, the most beautiful at Castle Caldwell, and the most pleasing I have any where seen. Rode round *Ross a goul*, the promontory in front of the house, from which the views are exceedingly beautiful, commanding a noble hanging wood on the banks of Ross moor, and the woody necks that stretch from the land beyond the house, with several islands, which give the greatest variety to the scene. On the point, Sir James has built an octagon temple, which takes in several views that are exceedingly pleasing; this neck of land is a wood of 40 acres, and a more agreeable circumstance so near a mansion can scarcely be imagined.

TAKE my leave of Castle Caldwell, and with colours flying, and his band of music playing, go on board his six-oared barge for Inniskilling; the heavens were favourable, and a clear sky and bright sun, gave me the beauties of the lake in all their splendor. Pass the scenes I have described, which from the boat take a fresh variety, and in all pleasing.

EAGLE island first salutes us, a woody knole. Others pass in review; among the rest, Herring island, noted for the wreck of a herring-boat, and the drowning of a fidler; but the boatmen love herrings better than music, and gave their name to the isle, rather than that of the son of Apollo. Inniskill is all wood. Rabbit island is 40 acres of pasture, which rises bold from the water. Innismac Saint also 40 acres of grass. Then comes a cluster of woody islands, which rise in perfect hills from the waters edge, the wood dipping in the lake, and they are so numerous that the lake is cut by them into winding straits, more beautiful than can be thought. The reader may imagine how exquisite the view must be, of numerous hills of dark and complete wood, which rise boldly from so noble a sheet of water: they form a most singular scene. Wherever the shore is seen, it is rising lands; in some places woods, in others cultivated hills. Passing these sylvan glories, we come next to the Gully island, all of wood, and is 100 acres: much of it is bold rising land, and the oak dips in the water. What a spot to build on, and form a retreat from the business and anxiety of the world! Nature here is blooming. It is in the midst of a region where one would think she has almost exhausted herself in producing scenes of rural elegance. It belongs to Lord Ely; I envy him the possession. The only thing it yields its owner is a periodical profit from cutting its beautiful woods. Shelter, prospect, wood and water, are here in perfection; what more can be wished for in a retreat, if an unambitious mind gilds the scene with what neither wood nor water can give—content? The sacrilegious axe has desolated three parts in four of its noble covering; and it will be 15 years before the rough ground and naked stubs are again cloathed.

PASS the hanging grounds of Castle Hume; some of them very beautifully crowned with wood, and the opposite coast of the lake, wood and cultivation. Car and Ferny islands bold lands cut into fields of corn give a fresh variety, and the woods of Castle Hume surround a bay to the right, at the bottom of which is the Castle half hidden with trees. It opens, however, to the view soon after, and accompanied on each side by a fine wood, and the surrounding ground various. The lake then takes the form of a bay, between some pretty cultivated slopes on one side, and Devenish island on the other, with its tower full in view. Advancing, the coast on the right consists of beautiful cultivated hills, divided into inclosures by hedges, and the waving hills rising one beyond another

another in a various and pleasing manner; the opposite shore is the same, but the view more distant. The island of Devenish is part of it very rich land; the poor people pay 5l. an acre for the old grafs for one crop of potatoes. About Ballyshannon, it is 3l. or 4l. per acre. The barley on the island after the potatoes is exceedingly fine. When you come abreast of the round tower, look backwards, to the right the scenery is very beautiful, the wood at the extremity, the waving hills under grafs and corn, which spread over this whole coast, form also the scenery in front, and unite with the lake to make a most pleasing landscape. Landed at Inniskilling, and that evening reached Castle Cool, the seat of A. Lowry Corry, Esq; who was absent in the county of Tyrone, but Mrs. Corry was so obliging as to procure me the information I wished.

AUGUST 15th, rode to the Topped Mountain, from whence is an immense prospect of many counties, and commanding Loch Earne from one end to the other, being above 40 miles long; the great sheet is towards Castle Caldwell, that to Belturbet is so thickly strewed with islands, that the water has more the appearance of several woods. Around Inniskilling, &c. land lets on an average at 10s. to 12s. an acre that is cultivated, but there is some mountain and bog that lets for little or nothing. Farms are various, many small ones of a few acres, but the most common size is 40 to 70 acres, with some large stock ones of 2 or 300l a year: the soil is principally a wet tenacious clay. The system of these stock farms is, to keep cattle of various ages, from year-olds to fat ones of 5 years, according to the quality of the land: they keep but few sheep. Weaving is but just coming in, but increases much; the spinning is common all over the county in every cabin, by the women and girls: they do not quite raise flax enough to supply their own demand.

THE course of crops most general is, 1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Flax. 5. Laid out for grafs. Farms very much taken in the rundale way by partnership.

THE people increase very fast in this neighbourhood, and are in better circumstances than they were some years ago. Some live on potatoes and milk, for all keep cows, and they eat some flesh meat. The number of little farmers who are supported by their farms alone is considerable, from whence it is plain that linen has not taken deep root. There are two bleach greens within 7 miles, and all they bleach is made in the country. A woman will earn 4d. a day by spinning, and do something in the family besides. The manure principally used is lime, which on an average costs them about 8d. a barrel, and they lay 80 and upwards per acre.

AUGUST 15th, to Belleisle, the charming seat of the Earl of Ros. It is an island in Loch Earne of 200 Irish acres, every part of it hill, dale, and gentle declivities: it has a great deal of wood, much of which is old, and forms both deep shades, and open chearful groves. The trees hang on the slopes, and consequently shew themselves to the best advantage. All this is exceedingly pretty, but it is rendered trebly so by the situation: a reach of the lake passes before the house, which is situated near the banks among some fine woods, which give both beauty and shelter. This sheet of water, which is three miles over, is bounded in front by an island of thick wood; and by a bold circular hill, which is his Lordship's deer park, this hill is backed by a considerable mountain. To the right are four or five fine clumps of dark wood; so many islands which rise boldly from the lake, the water breaks in straits between them, and forms a scene extremely picturesque. On the other side the lake stretches behind wood, in a streight, which forms Belleisle. Lord Ros has made walks round the island, from which there is a considerable variety of prospect. A temple is built on a gentle hill, commanding the view of the wooded islands abovementioned; but the most pleasing prospect of them is coming out from the grotto: they appear in an uncommon beauty; two seem to join, and the water which flows between takes the appearance of a fine bay, projecting deep into a dark wood: nothing can be more beautiful. The park hill rises above them, and the whole is backed with mountains. The home scene at your feet also is pretty; a lawn scattered with trees that forms the margin of the lake, closing gradually in a thick wood of tall trees, above the tops of which is a distant view of Cultiegh mountain, which is there seen in its proudest solemnity. To Lord Ros's very obliging attention I am indebted for the following particulars:—Rents about Belleisle are upon an average 10s. an acre for grass and arable, but mountain sides are set by the lump, according to the number of cattle they feed. The soil is all of blue clay. Farms are generally 50l. or 60l. a year; where there are weavers they are very small, but the number does not exceed a twentieth of the whole. They, however, increase fast; they have doubled their number in 10 years. Seventeen years ago, there not being one bleach mill, Lord Ros erected one; after which more were built, but in the whole county not more than ten. Average rent of cultivated land in Fermanagh, 10s. Course, 1. Potatoes, 2. Barley, 3. Oats, 4. Oats, 5. Oats. 6. Laid out six or seven years. 1. Potatoes, 2. Barley, 3. Oats, 4. Flax, 5. Laid out, some sow grass seeds.

Potatoes yield 20 barrels an acre; each 4 bushels; they plant two and an half to an acre; the price from 2s. 6d. to 20s. generally 10s. on stiff land, two crops of potatoes, but not on light. Barley yields from 10 to 15 barrels; oats from 6 to 10 barrels, but sometimes not 5. Account of flax:

Rent.

Rent and tillage	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Seed, two bushels, at 12s.	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	0
Clodding, 3 boys, at 6d	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	6
Pulling, 8 women, at ditto	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
Watering, two men and two horses, the men, 6d. the horses, 1s.	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	0
Taking out and spreading, two men and six women	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
Lifting, three women, one horse, and one man	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	0
Drying, two men and two women, 2s. and six kishes of turf, 6s.	-	-	-	-	-	£.	0	8
Beetling at the mill, by the stone.								

THE linen wove here, is from 6 to 1800, but in general 1200. A woman spins one hank, for which she has three half pence and board, if no board, four pence; the length of the webs vary, some ten yards, but in general double ones of fifty yards; it takes two hanks of yarn to every yard of the web; the weavers have five pence a yard for weaving it, and they will do three yards a day; they sell it at monthly markets. They breed up their sons more and more to weaving, as it increases much, and these people pay their rents by it, but they send off much more yarn than they weave.

THE food of the poor is potatoes, butter milk, and oat bread. They all keep cows and pigs. Most of the country is under grazing, some of which farms rise to 500l. a year. They generally buy in year-old calves, for which they give, on an average, 1l. 1s. to 1l. 5s. and keep them till they are four years old, and sell them lean to the graziers of other countries, who have land that will fatten: sell them 5l. to 6l. a bullock, thus, every year, they buy in, and sell out a stock. Upon a farm in the neighbourhood, of 350l. a year, besides horses, cows, and sheep, the farmer sells one hundred bullocks every year. Many cows are fattened, bought in in may at 2l. 10s. to 5l. and sold out in november, at 1l. 11s. 6d. profit, and a good acre will carry one of them, but in general it will take more. No dairies. Some sheep are kept, the lambs sold, at three and four months old, at 5s. to 10s. 6d. each, 7s. or 8s. in general; the wool of the ewe, 4s. 4d. Some buy two or three year old wethers, for fattening, in june, at 15s, and sell them fat in march or april following, at 1l. 1s. to 1l. 6s. Breeding ewes reckoned the most profitable, unless the land is very good. In moory land, they use lime for manuring, at 7d. a barrel, but if the farmer burns it himself, and has the stone convenient, it is done for 3d. with turf. A good deal of hollow draining, filled with stones, some with fods, but done only by gentlemen. Much corn, &c. by poor people, put in with spades, which they call *loys*, because they have no horses, and one acre of oats dug, is worth one and a half ploughed; some do it on this account, though they have horses.

LORD ROFS has generally a small field of turneps and cabbages for feeding sheep in the winter ; finds that cabbages are much the best, and last the longest.

AUGUST 17th, rowed to Knockinny, the deer park, three miles across the lake, through a maze of woody islands. Land on Lady Rofs's of 40 acres, in which she has cut walks leading through a great variety of ground ; in some places through open groves of large trees, in others close dark wood ; through lawns and rough ground, from some of which there are various views of the lake, and from others it is so perfectly excluded, that one would not think water was so near, a cabin for a poultryman, a covered bench, and a spot marked out for a cottage. As the boat approached Knockinny, a pretty bay opened upon us, round which, on one side, is a projecting point of wood, and on the other, the hill of Knockinny, with the wood rising up its side, uniting with that of the point to form one mass. From the hill the view is very fine ; you look down on 11 or 12 wooded islands scattered over the lake, with others cultivated, and the country rising around it. Belleisle appears to stand in the midst of a very large wood. The fish, in this part of the lake, are perch, pike to 40 lb. trout, eels, bream, &c. It is extraordinary that perch should appear in all the lakes of Ireland and in the Shannon at the same time, which was about 17 years ago. Large flights of swans sometimes appear here in winter, and are sure signs of a severe one.

REACHED Florence Court, Lord Inniskilling's seat, situated on an eminence under a great ridge of mountains. That nobleman procured me with the politest attention the following particulars.

THE soil in general is a thin surface, 4 to 8 inches of stoney mould, under that a tough yellow clay of 14 to 18 inches, and under that a purple lime stone gravelly clay, a good manure for tillage, but bad for grafs. Lets on an average at 10s. an acre the new leases ; but if there is bog or mountain, it is thrown in at that rent. Mountain sides of dry lime-stone soil will let at 6s. heathy ones thrown in. About Inniskilling, Lord Inniskilling has a considerable property, and heathy mountain within two miles of the town, lets at 9s. The town parks from 40s. to 3l. 3s. The cultivated land, not town parks, from 12s. to 20s. In respect to the advance of rents, it will best appear by inserting the particulars of some of Lord Inniskilling's farms, at old and new rents, in various soils and situations at Florence Court, Inniskilling, near Swadling-bar, and Ballyshannon.

Farms.

FLORENCE COURT.

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Farms. No.	Years let.	Acres.	Old Rent. £. 20	New Rent. £. 150
1	1731	286	6	18
2	1750	37	27	100
3	1746	283	10	37
4	1740	90	5	31
5	1730	73	18	61
6	1747	150	10	42
7	1737	60	8	40
8	1731	66	9	28
9	1730	86	6	20
10	1731	46	6	20
11	1731	41	6	20
12 A Mountain Farm.	1736	99	9	20
13	1757	191	14	18
14	1747	43	6	18
15	1731	66	12	30
16 Mountain.	1734	107	12	31
17 Ditto.	1750	406	18	25
18 Ditto.	1745	316	34	150
19	1731	118	23	93
20	1752	63	22	36
21	1752	15	5	9
22	1738	223	15	82
23	1759	97	18	87
24	1732	27	6	32
25	1731	53	14	52
26	1731	80	14	60
27	1731	90	14	67
28	1731	97	15	90
29 Mountain.	1734	402	11	100
30	1732	224	27	61
31	1731	66	18	60
32	1731	75	14	56
33	1732	128	22	64
34	1732	314	27	100
35	1731	209	27	94
36	1731	57	10	50
37	1746	132	15	76
37	1744	314	28	82
38	1758	166	16	56
39	1735	91	15	68
40	1734	407	37	164
41	1732	33	9	30
42	1731	61	17	31
43	1731	116	5	48
44	1744	1070	102	350
45	1752	125	18	62
46 Mountain.	1734	190	23	95
47	1742	93	8	45
48	1742	93	8	45
49	1748	235	10	165
50 Mountain.	1733	454	25	70
51	1733	149	20	70
52	1749	116	34	87
53 Mountain.	1751	2371	65	340
		<hr/> 11,000 <hr/>	<hr/> 981 <hr/>	<hr/> 3807 <hr/>

THE extremes of date may be called from 1730 to 1770, or 40 years, the average of the period would be 20 years; but we may safely say that in 30 years the rent is quadrupled. The courses of crops;

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes, reversing the lands. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out for weeds, &c.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Flax. 6. Oats. 7. Lay it down.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay it out.

TILLAGE farms rise from nine acres subdivided, to large tracts in grazing ones. The manures are marle, lime-stone, gravel, lime, bog, and iod ashes; the marle is white and light, found under bogs, and in banks; that in the banks, about Florence Court, is upon clay, or gravel, with springs under it, which makes the marle run into forms like cinders, petrified, and of a reddish cast, as if from vitriolic acid. The whole country abounds with fulphureous, and other mineral springs. Very little of this marle used; they use the lime stone gravelly clay most, which gives them very good crops. The expence of lime, carriage included, is 8d. a barrel, flacked; they lay sixty barrels an acre. They burn their mountain land, lime, and marle it, and set potatoes. In the year 1774, there were claimants for the Dublin Society's premiums, for 174 acres of bog reclaimed, and 120 of mountain. In 1773, 38 moor, and 120 bog. No draining done by the farmers, but much by the gentlemen.

POTATOES they plant all on lays; plant four barrels per acre, each barrel 6 cwt. they are measured by the peck, so piled up as to weigh 3 stone each: the price from 5s. to 16s. the barrel; average, 8s. No hiring of land merely for planting potatoes, but the farmers will let the cottars take a crop of potatoes, if they dung the land. The produce, on an average, will be 32 barrels: thirty-two men will set an acre a day, with five children: when the potatoes appear, they shovel the furrows, which four men will do in a day: eight men will weed an acre in a day, and sixty-four men will take them up.

E X P E N C E S .

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
County cefs	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4
Four barrels of seed	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	0
Planting, 32 men, at 8d. ditto, five children, at 5d.						1	3	5
Shoveling, four men, 8d.	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	8
Weeding, eight men, 8d.	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	4

£. 3 13 9

Brought

	Brought over	-	-	3	13	9
Taking up, sixty-four men, 8d.	-	-	-	2	2	8
Sorting, and picking, sixteen men, at 8d.	-	-	-	0	10	8
Drawing home, seven horses	-	-	-	0	7	0
Manuring, 200 loads, at 1d.	-	-	0	16	8	
Drawing, four cars, 4 men, and 4 boys,	0	6	8	1	3	4

7 17 5

PRODUCE.

Thirty-two barrels, at 8s.	-	-	-	12	16	0
Expences	-	-	-	7	17	5

£. 4 18 7

Of oats, they sow two barrels an acre, and some more, and the crop twelve barrels. Of barley, they sow five bushels an acre, each eight gallons, the crop eight barrels. Much stubble, and potatoe land, in wet soils, is dung for corn, and it takes eighteen men to dig an acre a day. Much flax is sown, both on the land, by its owner, and hired by cottars, who have no land fit for it; they hire a peck sowing, at 2 bushels and a half, or 2l. 14s. 2d. but the land is ploughed and harrowed into the bargain.

Rent and cess	-	-	-	£.	0	10	4
Seed, five bushels, at 12s.	-	-	-	3	0	0	
Clods and stones, eight men, 8d	-	-	-	0	5	4	
No weeding							
Pulling, sixteen women, at 6d.	-	-	-	0	8	0	
Gathering, tying, and rippling, sixteen men, at 8d.	-	-	-	0	10	8	
Watering, eight horses and cars, and eight men, the horse and car, at 1s.	-	-	-	0	13	4	
Taking out, four men	-	-	-	0	2	8	
Spreading, eight women	-	-	-	0	4	0	
Lifting and carrying home, 4 cars, 8 women and 4 boys	-	-	-	0	8	0	
Drying and beetling by a turf fire, four men and thirty-two women	-	-	-	0	18	8	
Scutching, mostly at home, by women, but done for three halfpence per lb. 360 lb. the acre	-	-	-	2	5	0	
Heckling, thirteen pence a stone, twenty-two stone	-	-	-	1	3	10	

10 9 10

Produce : 360 lb. or 22 stone, clean dressed, at 17s. 6d.	19	5	0
Expences	10	9	10

8 15 2

THEY

THEY spin all the flax they raise into three to five-hank yarn, on an average four. Many servants are hired for spinning, at 12s. a quarter, who do the business of the house, and spin a hank a day; if they do it for pay, it is 3d. a hank. A stone spins into 64 hanks; and when they have done it, it is sold at the markets and fairs: the tow they spin into two-hank yarn, which is wove into seven-hundred cloth, for home consumption. The weavers earn, on an average, 10d. a day. Many cows are kept, and much butter made by every little farmer, which they put into tubs of $1\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. and if one has not cows enough to make it, they join, in order to do it. Two cows will rear two calves, feed the family, and make a tub, which sells for 40s. per cwt. on an average, or 2l. 10s. the two cows; a cow requires two acres for her summer food, or if they have it, more, and her winter's hay, 10s. A good cow, if no milk is taken from her, will make 7lb. of butter a week; a middling one, four pounds and a half, and she will give twelve quarts a day. Many pigs kept, but no proportion observed to the number of cows, which are kept in the house at night in winter, but out all day. The calves suck the cows three months before weaning; many do not suck at all, but are weaned in a few days. The management of the grazing farmers, is to buy in year olds, at 20s. on an average, keep them till they are four years old; and sell them from 4l. to 10l. Some of these farmers occupy very large farms, even to 1000l. or 1500l. a year, but these are rare. Some buy in at three years old, and sell out at four; some at four, and sell at five; some at yearlings, and sell out at three, according to their lands. The common farmers buy in *mist* heifers, in november, and sell them in may, when they buy dry cows, which they sell fat in november, and make on the fattening, 30s. a head, and on the *mist* heifers, 16s. on an average. The little farmers that have lands fit for sheep, keep a few for cloathing their families, very many of them spinning wool enough, and weaving it for their own cloaths, pettycoats, blankets, &c. also stuffs for the women. The girls are seen in summer in their striped linens and whites of their own making, and in winter in their woollen stuffs. They clip from a ewe, about 3lb. on an average.

GOATS were so common that every person had them from the ease of keeping, as they brouze only on bushes, and 20 were not reckoned a *sum*. This term should be explained, it implies a portion of land sufficient for a given stock; for instance, keeping a cow is a *sum*; a horse a *sum* and an half; 8 sheep; 6 ewes and 6 lambs; 3 year olds; a 2 year old, and a year old; a 3 year old; 20 geese; a barrel of potatoes setting; a peck of flax sowing; a barrel of corn sowing, and a cow's grass; all these are *sums*. They plough all with horses, except gentlemen, 3 abreast, and do half an acre a day. Drawing by the tail not done these 7 years. The price per acre 10s. Of digging by the acre 12s. and the crop 10s. an acre more; but they reckon that nothing in the world
wears

wears out the land more than digging. They lay their wet lands in narrow ridges of 5 furrows. The horses get no oats, yet they are not more than from 6s. to 12s. a sack, of 2 barrels measure; the barrel weighs 9 or 10 stone. Average price 9s. In hiring a little farm, no attention given to what stock they have. Land sells at 21 years purchase, rack rent, which is lower than 4 or 5 years ago. Rents are fallen in 4 years 2s. an acre. Tythes compounded, small and great ones, by the lump. The leases most common are 3 lives, or 31 years. *Tierney bogs* are now done with. The people increase considerably, notwithstanding the emigrations, which were great till within these 2 years. Their circumstances vastly improved in 20 years; they are better fed, clothed, and housed; more sober and industrious in every respect. Their food is potatoes and oaten bread, and a bit of beef or bacon for winter. All keep cows, and most of them pigs, and some poultry; many turkeys and geese. No drinking tea. The religion some catholic, but a great many protestants. In 20 years there is a rise of 2d. a day in labour. In provisions there has been a considerable rise; 20 per cent. in meal. A sledge car costs 2s. 2d. Wheel car 1l. 14s. 1½d. A plough 11s. 2½d. A poor man's turf for a year will cost him 20s. Building a sod cabin 2l. Ditto of stone and thatch 15l.

AUGUST 18th, took the road by Swadling-bar for Farnham. That spaw of the north of Ireland is a little village, which appears to be but a poor residence for the numbers that resort to it. I took the Killishandra road, from thence to Farnham; in about 3 or 4 miles it leads along the edge of a lake, through a pretty wood which hangs to the water. Passed Mr. Henry's, a house very agreeably situated amidst woods, which spread to the right and left, and above it. Many lakes are in this country; I passed several large ones, which communicate with each other by a river. The road crosses a variety of bog and moory ground, perfectly improveable; lime cheap, but little seems to be done or doing. At Mr. Nesbit's enter a rich woodland country. The bishop of Kilmore's palace is on a considerable hill, yet sheltered by very fine trees; the country here is beautiful. I had been favoured with an invitation from the bishop, but he was then at Dublin. The woods of Farnham appear very finely from hence. Reached that place in the evening time enough for a ride with the Earl on the borders of his lakes. These are uncommonly beautiful; they are extensive, and have a shore extremely varied. On one side large thick hedge row trees, with meadows behind them; on the other a most noble range of hanging wood, which spreads on each side to a great distance, covering a bold shore, and to a considerable height, nor are they uniform in their outline; the hills over which they spread vary greatly; in some places presenting a continued sweep, in others, breaking the line, and projecting into the lake. In one part the shore consists of grass inclosures, the hedges scattered with trees, and mounting

ing upon the flopes, form a very fine scenery. Nothing can be more pleasing than the whole to the right of the lake; the meadows are of undulating lands that wave about in a variety of mild forms; a most pleasing scenery. These beautiful fields rise above the lake, which they command in some places, and in others retire from. Upon the whole Farnham is one of the finest places I have seen in Ireland; the water, wood, and hill, are all in a great stile, and abound in a variety of capabilities.

CABBAGES Lord Farnham has cultivated 3 years; in 1774, he had 4 acres manured with lime and earth, and of different sorts, flat dutch, early yorkshire and greenbore cole, the seed was sown in the spring, and planted out in june, in rows 3 feet asunder, and horse-hoed clean; found them for milch cows much better than turneps; plough bullocks; also fattening bullocks, that had the summer grafs, fattened very well on them; lasted till the latter end of february; the bore cole longer; the cabbages came to a good size, and the crop paid extremely well. Tares and beans were sown after them, and yielded a great produce.

In 1775, six acres, manured with lime and ditch-earth, well mixed, and at planting time, a little dung laid to each root; the sorts the same as last year, with some red cabbage; the crop very fine, many came to 16 lb. used for the same purposes, and answered perfectly well. This year I viewed the crop, and a very fine one it was, clean, well horse-hoed, and promises to be a great produce. Upon the whole, Lord Farnham strongly recommends the culture from experience; if he was to farm 40 years, he would never be without them for his cows, his plough bullocks, and for finishing those fat beasts which have had the summer grafs; he thinks them far better than turneps; that an acre will go farther, is easier cultivated, and got from the land with less damage. Nor is this opinion founded from any ignorance of turneps, his Lordship lived several years in Norfolk, and attended to the immense advantages reaped in that county from the cultivation of them; he introduced them at Farnham the same time as cabbages; they are difficult to cultivate in Ireland, from the ignorance of the people in hoeing; he has drilled part, and had part broad cast; the drilled much the best, from their being so much better hoed; drills in furrows two feet asunder; I saw this year's crop, and found them very fine, clean, and promised to be good. Since this was written, Lord Farnham informs me, that in 1777, he had 14 irish acres of turneps, which kept 50 working, and fattening oxen, and dairy cows, besides 60 fat sheep; some of the oxen were sold fat from them, at from 17l. to 20l. each; the Lancashire breed that had been worked. The same year he had one acre of carrots, which he applied to feeding horses, and instead of giving 4 barrels of oats a week, they had only one, the rest being deducted on account of the roots. That in England, he fed his whole stud with them, nor would the horses touch

touch an oat, while they could get carrots. Washing he found so expensive, that to lessen it, he put them in baskets in a stream, and this saved half; the soil not light. They were left in the ground, and drawn in the winter, as wanted.

LORD Farnham mentioned one circumstance of turneps, new to me, which was his feeding his horses in Norfolk with them. His brood mares, and hacks, of which he had a great number, ran in the park at Hunston, with his bullocks, that were fattening on turneps, and they followed the carts as eagerly as the beasts; had no other food, and did perfectly well on them. His Lordship has made great improvements in some of his lands by means of hollow draining. Very wet clays, over-run with rushes and other aquatic rubbish, he has converted into dry sound healthy pastures. The principal drains are filled with stones, the lesser ones with sod.

IN the breed of cattle he has been equally attentive, having been at a considerable expence to procure the very best Lancashires; and what is uncommon, without spoiling his dairy: for his cows give much milk. After falling off a good deal, they make 6 or 7 lb. of butter each a week, besides supplying his numerous family with milk and cream. The bull-calves he rears for oxen, works them till they are six years old, and then fattens them. Draft oxen he finds infinitely more beneficial than horses. The breed of strong horses he has also been very attentive to improve, buying a stallion of Mr. Bakewell, and has bred many, which sell readily at 25l. each, at 4 years old.

IN planting, Lord Farnham observed at Farnham, that no tree grows to so large a size speedily as the silver fir. He has many of a great size, planted by his father 40 years ago, in a wet clay soil on a rock; we measured some of them 12 feet in circumference at the ground, and one 7½ at 5 feet high: this tree contains 76 feet of solid timber. What is very uncommon, he pointed out many oaks that are destroying the scotch firs planted with them, having outgrown and rising completely above them. This I do not remember having noticed before. In the same plantation the beech generally beats the scotch fir and the ash, though the latter suits the soil very well; indeed the beech oak and silver fir are the capital trees. - One use he has put the silver fir to, in which it answers perfectly, which is boat-building; he has a boat built of it, which has lasted as well as if of the best oak. This is a hint which may prove of infinite use. I remember Mr. Mitford in Hampshire flooring his library with silver fir, fresh cut down, and the boards not contracting in the least: a quality very valuable in ship-building. He can sell scotch fir out of his woods readily at 40s. a ton, even very poor trees.

THE soil about Farnham is in general a good loam, from 4 to 10 inches deep, and under it a yellow or blue clay 2 feet deep, and under that a stony gravel, a quarry of lime-stone, or blue whin-stone. It is in general

neral very wet ; hollow drains lay it dry, if there is a fall. From Cavan to Belturbet it is dry rough rocky ground. From Killishandra to Knockwinn, dry gravel. From Cavan to Virginy, heathy, which yields good corn, with lime. Rents by new leases in general, 14s. to 20s. old ones 5s. to 10s. Cavan and Kilmore the highest. There is a great deal of bog and mountain, which with lakes, amount to half the county. Average rent about 6s. by another account I had, it is 7s. 6d. Farms are generally about 100 acres, 50 to 100, and these relet, from 2 to 10 acres, to the poor people, who are cottars, and pay their high rent by labouring.

Courses: 1. Summer fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats or Barley. 4. Potatoes. 5. Wheat or barley.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Lay out for grafs. No feeds sown.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Flax. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out for grafs.

THEY sow 4 bushels of wheat, or 20 stone an acre, and it yields 7 barrels. There is a good deal sown, and several flower mills in the country. Of barley they sow 4 bushels, and get 9 barrels 16 stone to the barrel. They sow 8 bushels of oats, and get on an average 10 barrels. Of potatoes they plant 14 barrels to the acre, each 20 stone, and the crop is usually 60, and the price 5s. to 10s. Average 7s. 6d.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
14 Barrels	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	0
Planting, 36 men a day, at 1s. no board, 6d. with it	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	16	0
Shovelling, 8 men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	0
Weeding, 10 boys, at 4d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	4
Taking up, 72 men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	12	0
Manuring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
										<u>£.</u>	<u>13 0 4</u>

PRODUCE.

60 Barrels, at 7s. 6d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	10	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	0	4
Profit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<u>£.</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9 8</u>

BUT little lime used in the country, though in some places lime stone is plentiful; the price is 6d. to 10d. the barrel flack. Much marle used about Ballyconnel and Killishandra; the white light fort from under bogs: they use it on heathy moors with success, for which purpose they use lime also. Before they plough it, they lay the lime on, 150 barrels roach, and then either sow oats, or plant potatoes, and this perfectly kills all

all the heath, (*erica vulgaris*) and makes very fine land after it. Upon dry heathy ground at Ballyconnel, Mr. Swan, Lord Farnham's manager, has seen heaps of lime stone laid on the heath near kilns, and has remarked that where this stone was laid without burning or breaking, there the heath was completely killed, and a full crop of white clover (*trifolium repens*) came up, from the dust that had rubbed off; a strong proof that pounded lime-stone would be an admirable manure. The stock farmers, who, however, are not large ones, 150 acres being a good farm, are many of them in the succession business of buying in young cattle, and selling them out older without fattening; others on better lands, buy in dry cows in may, and sell them fat in november, making from 30s. to 40s. a head. But few fat bullocks, nor is it a great sheep country, nor any dairies; but all the little farmers and cottars, keep one, two, or three. If they pay for grazing a cow, it is 20s. to 30s. They keep also many pigs, from one to five, in every house. They plough all with horses three or four in a plough, and all abreast. Here let it be remarked, that *they very commonly plough and harrow with their horses* DRAWING BY THE TAIL: it is done every season. Nothing can put them beside this, and they insist, that take a horse tired in traces, and put him to work by the tail, he will draw better: quite fresh again. Indignant reader! this is no jest of mine, but cruel, stubborn, barbarous truth. It is so all over Cavan.

LAND sells at 22 years purchase, rack rents: it has fallen 2 years. Rents have fallen within 4 or five years considerably; those that were taken 7 or 8 years ago, have fallen from 3s. to 8s. an acre. Tythes are generally hired by proctors, who view the farmers crops, and compound with them, making a considerable profit by it. They screw up the tenants and poor people very severely. The people are in general in much better circumstances than some years ago; more industrious, better fed, clothed, and lodged: they increase very much. Potatoes, and milk and butter, are their food, and oaten bread when the potatoes are not in season: scarce any flesh meat among the poor. The linen manufacture consists principally in spinning, which is universal all over the county for girls and women; but weaving is by no means general, nor does it increase in this neighbourhood. A woman, by spinning, will earn 4d. on an average. They do not raise enough for supplying their wheels, for much is brought from Dublin. There are four bleach greens in these parts, at Ballyconnel, Ballynagh, Scrabby, and Ardvagh. Building a mud cabin 4l. 4s. ditto of stone, lime and slate, 30l. ditching, 6 feet wide and 5 deep, 1s. 1d. a drain 2 feet deep and 3 wide, 2d. to 3d. a perch. Threshing wheat 1s. a barrel. Oats 7d. Barley 8d. Farming man's wages 5l. A lad 3l. to 4l. A woman in summer 6d. a day. A wheeled car costs 1l. 10s. A plough 9s. A pair of harrows 12s.

AUGUST 20th, took my leave of Farnham, and passed by Cavan to Granard; got in that neighbourhood, into a fine tract of dry, sound,

gravelly land, which lets, on an average, at 11. 1s. through the barony: use it very much for fattening some bullocks, cows chiefly, and a few sheep. The farms are in general large, many about 200 acres. It is all a lime-stone gravel. In the town of Granard, is one close of 50 acres, called Granard Kiln, immediately under a mound of earth, an antient danish intrenchment, which regularly supports 50 fat cows, 100 sheep, 6 horses, and is reckoned the best spot in the county, worth 35s. an acre. The country, all the way from Cavan to near Carrickglass, within 2 miles of Longford, is exceedingly bare of trees.

REACHED Ballynogh, the seat of W. G. Newcomen, Esq; who has many trees, and well planted hedge-rows, about him; he favoured me with the following particulars: about that neighbourhood, lands let at 13s. 6d. from 7s. to 20s. The rent of the whole county of Longford may be reckoned at 12s. an acre, on an average, of all that is cultivated, and one-sixth part bog and mountain, which yields no rent. The soil is, in general, a tolerable vegetable mould on the surface, for three or four inches deep; under that, two-inch thick of blue clay: which retains water under that yellow clay for two or three feet, and then every where lime-stone gravel. This is generally the soil of the whole county, except the barony of Granard, and a part of the county, called the Callaw, which is a light lime-stone rocky ground, producing fine wheat, and good sheep.

LEITRIM lets at 4s. on an average. In Leitrim there are many mountain improvements, by setting fire to the heath in summer, liming it the following spring, marling upon that, and then plant potatoes, get great crops, and make fine land of it. The size of farms rise commonly to 5 or 600 acres, but the general size is about 100 acres, with many small ones: *Rundale*, or the hiring of farms in partnership, is very common, three or four families will take 100 acres. A great part of the country is let to tenants, who do not occupy, but re-let at advanced rents to the poor people. The course of crops is: 1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Bere. 4. Barley, or Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out for weeds, four or five years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Lay it out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats.

Of potatoes, they sow four barrels to an acre, each 64 stone, and get 40 in return; the price 5s. to 14s. average 8s. Of bere they sow 20 stone, and get 10 barrels. Of barley ditto, get 12. Oats they sow 2 barrels, at 14 stone, and get 15. The waste mountains are improving very fast, by families hiring spots of heath, building their cabbins on them, and improving them under a rent of 5s. to 8s. an acre. They bring it all in by potatoes, but use no lime, though they could have it cheap, for lime-stone is on the spot, and plenty of turf to burn it with; this is the case with Cornclanew, near Carrick Glass. White marle is found under the bogs,

bogs, but scarce any of it used. The system of cattle most common, is to buy yearlings, at 40s. and keep them till 3 or 4 years old, and sell them lean at 5l. to 5l. 10s. buying in some every year, and selling out the same number. Fattening cows is also very common, bought in in may, at 3l. to 5l. and sold out in october, at 30s. to 40s. profit. It is not reckoned bad land, if three acres fatten two. No cows for dairies, they are kept only by little people. Ploughing all with horses, a pair a-breast, but no drawing by the tail; this practice they utterly deny here. Land sells rack-rent at 18½ years purchase. Let for ever and well secured, 20 years purchase. The price has fallen within four years; rents have also fallen three shillings in the pound in six years, and are at present falling, from the low prices of grain. Tythes taken generally by the proctors, who are very civil to gentlemen, but exceedingly cruel to the poor. The country evidently increases very much in population: the people are in better circumstances than they were 20 years ago, better clothed, better fed, and more industrious, yet at present it is found, and I have had the same remark made to me, at many other places, that they only work to eat, and when provisions are plenty, will totally idle away so much of their time, that there is scarce any such thing as getting work done. The religion is principally roman; no emigrations. There is a better yeomanry than is common in Ireland. Many farmers, of from 100 to 250 acres. Rent of a cabin and garden, 30s. A cow's grass 1l. 10s. All the cottars have some land: all keep cows, and many pigs and geese. I remarked for some time of late, that the geese are plucked, and upon enquiry, that every goose yielded three farthings or a halfpenny in feathers per annum. They make a dreadful ragged figure. The poor live upon potatoes and milk, it is their regular diet, very little oat bread being used, and no flesh-meat at all, except on an Easter Sunday, or Christmas-day. Their potatoes last them through the year; all winter long only potatoes and salt. Firing costs them 30s. a year for labour in the bogs. Building a mud cabin, 4l. Ditto of stone and lime, 37 feet by 15, 17l. Another, 30 feet by 14, 11l. These are the measures of two, which Mr. Newcomen has built at that expence. The linen manufacture spreads through Longford. It has increased considerably, from a remarkable circumstance which happened three years ago, which was a gentleman unknown, giving 500l. to be distributed to poor weavers, in loans of 5l. each, to be repaid, at 25s. a quarter, to enable them to carry on their business with more ease. This had great effects. There are three bleach greens in the county; the weaving increases; spinning is universal throughout all the cabins, and likewise through all the county of Leitrim, but there is not so much weaving as in Longford.

AUGUST 21st, to Strokestown, the seat of Thomas Mahon, Esq; Passed through Longford, a cheerless country, over an amazing quantity of bog, and all improvable; a great one in particular, on the banks of
the

S T R O K E S T O W N .

Shannon, two miles over, and I found it reached many miles beyond Lanesboro'. Mr. Mahon has 5000 acres of it. A great fall lies every way, a good road is made over it, and lime is burnt on the edges for 3d. a barrel roach; besides lime, they have lime-stone, gravel and sand every where, which laid on the bog, drained or not drained, produces a sheet of white clover; what a field is this for improvement, yet nothing done! Crossed the Shannon, which is here a considerable river, and entered Connaught. The first appearance of Strokestown woods are very noble, from a hill which looks down on them; they are very extensive, of a great growth, and give a richness to the view, which is a perfect contrast to the dreary scene I had passed. Mr. Mahon neglected no means of having me well informed in the following minutes. Land about Strokestown sets at 25s. The average of the whole county is 11s. including bog; mountain there is very little. The county of Leitrim, 2s. on an average. A great part of Roscommon, particularly from Athlone to Boyle, 30 miles long, and 10 broad, is sheep-walk, and lets on an average, 12s. an acre. It is generally walk, only patches of potatoes and corn for the workmen. The soil of it lime-stone. These sheep walks I had heard so much of, that I was eager in my enquiries concerning them; they were some years ago divided into much larger farms than at present, for there were men who had 20,000 sheep, whereas now 6 or 7000 is the greatest flock. The farms rise to 3000 acres, few under 4 or 500. They stock commonly at the rate of two sheep an acre, and reckon the profit to be lamb and wool, the lamb sold in August, at 12s. and 5 lb. of wool from the ewe, at better than 1s. per lb. or 17s. a head.

THEY feed them all the year on grass, having no turneps; but in severe weather give them hay. They have much other cattle with them, such as yearlings, two year olds, three year olds, &c. selling them four year olds to such as want them for fattening. In wet years they are in some places troubled with the rot, but it is not at all common. These sheep walks decrease as the people become more numerous: parts are ploughed up, but very few instances of sheep gaining upon tillage. The cottars are never suffered to keep sheep, but have cows grazed for them, as in other parts.

THIS part of the country is not populous, but more so than it was. These sheep walks are here reckoned much better than the Curragh of Kildare. They are not regular in stocks of ewes, but keep a various stock. A man that has 1000 sheep will have 400 ewes, 200 yearlings having sold 200 of the worst lambs, 200 two year olds, and 200 three year old wethers, which he sells fat; consequently his annual sale will be 200 lambs, 200 fat wethers, and 100 of the worst old ewes.

200 lambs

200 lambs, casualties and missing reducing them to 150, at 1cs.	75	0	0
200 fat wethers, at 20s.	-	-	-
100 old ewes 10s.	-	-	-
Wool, 1000 sheep, 4s.	-	-	-

£. 525 0 0

THE country is divided into inclosures by stone walls generally, so that one shepherd is all that is kept to a flock. The wool goes mostly to Corke, where it is spun into worsted and exported; this is the account I had in this country. All these sheep-masters mix, as I before observed, other stock with their flocks; besides 2 sheep per acre, they will keep at the rate of 40 yearlings, and 2 or 3 year olds to every 100 acres. The soil is brown loam on lime-stone gravel. Farms about Stokestown consist generally of *Rundale* ones, upon 2 or 300 acres, there will be 10 to 15 families, nor is it thought here a bad system. Much the greatest part of the land is grafs; but what they have in tillage they arrange in the following coarse:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Flax. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out for 6 or 7 years. None of them sow grafs seeds.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out.

MUCH land is let for grafs potatoes at 5l. 5s. 4l. and 4l. 4s. afterwards for a crop of flax. They plant 4 barrels, at 5½ cwt. each; and they get about 50 barrels an acre, the price from 4s. to 15s. average 8s. To sell them on the foot growing 10l. is reckoned a high price. Of flax seed they sow 11 pecks per acre, or a hogshhead 2 acres; an acre fold *on the foot* (that is as it grows) is worth 8l. on an average. They commonly sow a barrel, or 20 stone of wheat to the acre. Mr. Mahon only 12. They get 6 in return. They sow 2 barrels of barley, and get 9. Of oats they sow 2 barrels, and get 10. Lime-stone gravel the great manure; they put 1500 load, at 5 cwt. each, on an acre, and it costs 1l. or 1l. 1s. It does best on strong land, especially free stone; it will last 7 years, in which time they will take 7 crops. Of lime they use no great quantity; but when they do, lay 50 barrels an acre. Mr. Mahon compared different quantities of it, from 50 to 100, and the more was laid the better it was, but the lime-stone gravel better than any of them. About Stokestown, Mr. Mahon can have turf in one hole and lime-stone in another, and he burns it in arched kilns, with several eyes, the stone 15 deep over them, and 200 barrels of lime to each eye; it burns in 60 hours, each eye takes 10 clamps of turf, at 4s. each, including drawing, each clamp 30 kishes. Quarrying and breaking, burning, filling, and building and emptying, 2l. an eye, in all 4l. for 200 barrels roach, or about 5d. a barrel. They have both white and grey marle under the bogs, the light sort, but the gravel and sandy lime-stone is so much better that nobody uses it. They plough with

with 4 horses, 2 and 2 abreast. Mr. Mahon, with 2 abreast by boys, taught by a ploughman he had from Bury in Suffolk, who by ploughing in that manner, without a driver and with a Suffolk plough, did as much in one day as the country people in three: by teaching lads for Mr. Mahon and his neighbours, was the means of very much improving the tillage of the neighbourhood. Land sells at 21 and 22 years purchase: it let within 3 or 4 years at 5 per cent. less than 15 years ago, but it is now rising. Tythes are sometimes taken in kind, but more commonly set to the farmer. Wheat 8s. Flax 8s. Oats 3s. Barley and bere 8s. Much land let to those who do not occupy it, but who re-let it to others at an advanced rent.

THE linen manufacture of spinning is spread not only through Roscommon, but all Connaught, and in Roscommon they raise flax enough for their own use; weaving is creeping in by degrees, about a twentieth part of their yarn is woven in the country, into linens of 10 or 12 hundred, and sheetings half quarter wide, at 10d. to 1s. 4½d. a yard. The yarn spun is mostly 2 hank yarn. A woman will spin 6 hanks a week, of 4 hank yarn, at 4d. a hank, 4d. a day by 4 hank yarn, and 3d. a day by 2 hank yarn. The people are upon the increase, but not much; they are better fed than 20 years ago, and better clothed, but not more industrious, or better housed. They live on potatoes and milk, and butter. Scarce any but what keeps a cow or two; they are not allowed to keep pigs in general, but many will a tolerable quantity of poultry. The rent of 1 acre, and a house, is 20s. the grass of a cow 1l. 2s. The men dig turf, and plant potatoes, and work for their landlord, and the women pay the rent by spinning. Great rise in prices, butter one-third, beef one-fourth, poultry one-half. Price of a car 1l. 14s. a plough 10s. 6d. Oak timber 3l. 3s. to 5l. a ton, ash ditto 2l. to 3l. elm ditto. A mud cabin 5l. 5s. ditto stone and slate 15l. A mason's perch of a wall 4s. Near Castle Plunket, a bog of Mr. Arthur Irvin's, let at 1l. 2s. 9d. a perch, 160l. per acre, it is 21 deep of fine turf.

MR. Mahon's woods are all of his own planting, and having besides 100 acres, a vast number of hedge-rows well planted round many inclosures, which join those woods, they all take the appearance of uniting into one great range of plantations, spreading on each side the house. It is one of the strongest instances of a fine shade being speedily formed in the midst of a bleak country that I have any where met with, being a perfect contrast to all the neighbourhood. He began 35 years ago with ash, which trees are now 70 to 80 feet high.

But the generality of the plantations are from 17 to 30 years old, and are for that age, I think, the finest woods I ever saw; they consist of ash, oak, english and french elm, beech, maple, spruce, scotch and silver fir, larch, &c. Of all these the beech are the finest trees, and of
the

the greatest growth, many of them 3 and 4 feet in circumference, and 30 to 40 feet high. The bark is bright and beautiful, and every tree gives the strongest signs of agreeing perfectly with the soil. One very particular circumstance of this tree, Mr. Mahon tried, which deserves the attention of those who have deer; he made a plantation of all sorts of forest trees in his park, in order to see how far the deer would let them escape: they eat up every tree he planted, the beech alone excepted, not one of which did they touch either leaf, branch, or bark; it was 18 years ago, and they are all now as fine trees as ever were seen. Next to the beech, the largest tree is the silver fir, of which he has many in 20 years, of a great size. After this the oak, which thrives admirably well; then the english elm. But the tree which outgrows these and every other he has planted but 5 years, is the Lombardy poplar. The growth almost exceeds belief! In 5 years they are 35 feet high, and I saw many of 2 years old 12 feet, and the year's shoots 5 or 6 feet. His hedge-rows, Mr. Mahon has planted with uncommon attention, the ditches are single, with a row of trees among or above the quick, another row on the back of the bank, and a third on the brow of the ditch; these, with a lofty growth of the quick, form so thick a shelter, that one cannot see thro' it, so that almost every inclosure has the appearance of a field, surrounded by a wood. Of these inclosures thus planted, he has 16 of from 6 to 20 acres each. Mr. Mahon's breed of both cattle and sheep are improved by a bull and a tup, which he bought of Mr. Bakewell; and has bred from them with great success. He is in the succession system, which is, buying in a certain number of yearlings every year, and killing the same number fat, from 5 to 7 years old: but in common they are only kept till 4 or 5.

AT Clonells, near Castle rea, lives O'Conner, the direct descendant of Rodetick O'Connor, who was king of Connaught 6 or 700 years ago; there is a monument of him in Roscommon church, with his scepter, &c. I was told as a certainty, that this family were here long before the coming of the Milesians. The possessions formerly so great are reduced to 3 or 400l. a year, the family having fared in the revolutions of so many ages, much worse than the O'Niel's and O'Brien's. The common people pay him the greatest respect, and send him presents of cattle, &c. upon various occasions. They consider him as the prince of a people involved in one common ruin.

ANOTHER great family in Connaught is Macdermot, who calls himself prince of Coolavin; he lives at Coolavin in Sligo, and though he has not above 100l. a-year, will not admit his children to sit down in his presence. This was certainly the case with his father, and some assured me even with the present chief. Lord Kingsborough, Mr. Ponsonby, Mr. O'Hara,

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Mr.

Mr. Sandford, &c. came to see him, and his address was curious: "O'Hara! you are welcome; Sandford, I am glad to see your mother's son: (his mother was an O'Brien) as to the rest of ye, come in as ye can." Mr. O'Hara of Nymphsfield, is in possession of a considerable estate in Sligo, which is the remains of great possessions they had in that country: he is one of the few descendants of the Milesian race.

SINCE the bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, much is sent from the county of Roscommon, and even farther from Sligo and Mayo; and this business of carriage was mentioned to me as a proof of the great excellency of the Irish car. They carry from 9 cwt. to 12 cwt. with a single horse that is not worth above 5l. The distance from hence is 67 miles, and they are 9 days going and returning: they come back loaded. For 16s. 3d. they will carry a load of any thing to Dublin without the advantage of any bounty.

AUGUST 23d, leave Strokestown, and take the road to Elphin, through a country principally sheep walks; the soil dry found gravel, and stoney land. Waited on the bishop, who was so obliging as to procure me several valuable particulars concerning the neighbourhood.

His Lordship shewed me the particular of his bishoprick, which consists of very large tracts of land both in Roscommon and Sligo, from this the rental appears. The total of his particular are, 18,223 profitable acres, 5,382 unprofitable. Rent 1,742l. Fines 1,216l. 23,000 acres, let for 1,742l. must necessarily be very moderate. Respecting sheep walks, the following is an account of what a farm of 1000 acres is on an average; 2000 sheep kept on it worth 14s. 100 bullocks, that is, 60 two year olds, and 40 three year olds.

Annual sale.

500 wethers, at 20s. to 24s.	-	-	-	-	550	0	0
100 culled ewes, at 8s.	-	-	-	-	40	0	0
2000 fleeces, 5 lb. at 10d. average	-	-	-	-	416	0	0
					<hr/>		
That is 10s. a head	-	-	-	-	1006	0	0
Profit on 100 young cattle	-	-	-	-	200	0	0
					<hr/>		
					£.	1206	0 0
20 acres grass potatoes let at 3l. 3s. to 4l. say	-	-	-	-	-	70	0 0
10 acres meadow fold at 50s.	-	-	-	-	-	25	0 0
5 fillies and colts, at 6l.	-	-	-	-	-	30	0 0
30 acres of wheat, bere and oats, at 5l.	-	-	-	-	-	150	0 0
10 acres flax let at 3l. to 4l.	-	-	-	-	-	35	0 0
					<hr/>		
					£.	1516	0 0
					<hr/>		

Expences.

<i>Expences.</i>					
Rent	-	-	750	0	0
Cefs	-	-	30	0	0
10 men	-	-	80	0	0
Wear and tear	-	-	10	0	0
Interest 2000l. stock, 6					
per cent.	-	-	120	0	0
Tythe	-	-	40	0	0
Losses on stock 3s. a head					
on sheep	-	-	100	0	0
				<hr/>	
				£. 1130	
				<hr/>	
				0 0	
				<hr/>	
				Produce	- 1516 0 0
				Expences	- 1130 0 0
				<hr/>	
				Profit	- £.386 0 0
				<hr/>	

FARMS in general are from 100 to 1500 acres; and rents from 12s. to 15s. an acre. Ten years ago flocks amounted to 9 or 10,000, but now not above 2000. Average rent of the whole county 10s. From Elphin towards Kingston, especially near the latter, the soil ranks among the finest I have any where seen. It is a dry found mellow sandy loam, deep and very rich, the herbage excellent. It is generally under sheep, with many bullocks.

To Lord Kingston's, to whom I had a letter, but unfortunately for me he was at Spaw. Walked down to Longford Hill, to view the lake; it is one of the most delicious scenes I ever beheld, a lake of 5 miles by 4, which fills the bottom of a gentle valley almost of a circular form, bounded very boldly by the mountains. Those to the left rise in a noble slope; they lower rather in front, and let in a view of Strand mountain, near Sligo, above 20 miles off. To the right, you look over a small part of a bog to a large extent of cultivated hill, with the blue mountains beyond. Were this little piece of bog planted, the view would be more complete; the hill on which you stand has a foliage of well grown trees, which form the southern shore. You look down on 6 islands, all wooded, and on a fine promontory to the left, which shoots far into the lake. Nothing can be more pleasing than their uncommon variety; the first is small, (Rock island) tufted with trees, under the shade of which is an antient building, once the residence of Macmerdot. The next a mixture of lawn and wood; the third, which appears to join this, is of a darker shade, yet not so thick but you see the bright lawn under the trees. House island is one fine thick wood, which admits not a gleam of light, a contrast to the silver bosom of the lake. Church island is at a greater distance; this is also a clump, and rises boldly. Rook island is of wood; it opens in the center, and shews a lawn with a building on it. It is impossible to imagine a more pleasing and cheerful scene. Passed the chapel to Smithfield Hill, which is a fine rising ground, quite furrounded with plantations; from hence the view

is changed; here the promontory appears very bold, and over its neck you see another wooded island, in a most picturesque situation. Nothing can be more picturesque than Rock island, its ruin overhung with ivy. The other islands assume fresh and varied outlines, and form upon the whole one of the most luxuriant scenes I have met with.

THE views of the lake and environs are very fine as you go to Boyle; the woods unite into a large mass, and contrast the bright sheet of water with their dark shades.

THE lands about Kingston are very fine, a rich, dry, yellow, sandy loam, the finest soil that I have seen in Ireland, all grass, and covered with very fine bullocks, cows, and sheep. The farms rise to 500 acres, and are generally in divisions, parted by stone walls, for oxen, cows, young cattle, and sheep separate. Some of the lands will carry an ox and a wether per acre; rents 15s. to 20s.

DINED at Boyle, and took the road to Ballymoat; crossed an immense mountainy bog, where I stopped, and made enquiries; found that it was ten miles long, and three and a half over, containing thirty-five square miles; that lime-stone quarries were around, and in it, and lime-stone gravel in many places to be found, and used in the lands that join it: in addition to this I may add, that there is a great road crossing it. 35 miles are 22,400 acres. What an immense field of improvement! nothing would be easier than to drain it, vast tracts of land have such a fall, that not a drop of water could remain. These hilly bogs are extremely different from any I have seen in England. In the moors in the north, the hills and mountains are all covered with heath, like the Irish bogs, but they are of various soils, gravel, shingle, moor, &c. and boggy only in spots, but the Irish bog hills are all pure bog to a great depth, without the least variation of soil; and a bog being of a hilly form, is a proof that it is a growing vegetable mass, and not owing merely to stagnant water. Sir Laurence Dundas is the principal proprietor of this.

REACHED Ballymoat in the evening, the residence of the Hon. Mr. Fitzmaurice, where I expected great pleasure in viewing a manufactory, of which I heard much since I came to Ireland. He was so kind as to give me the following account of it, in the most liberal manner:

TWENTY years ago the late Lord Shelburne came to Ballymoat, a wild uncultivated region, without industry or civility; and the people all Roman Catholics, without an atom of a manufactory, not even spinning. In order to change this state of things, his Lordship contracted with people in the north, to bring Protestant weavers, and establish a manufactory, as the only means of making the change he wished; this was done, but falling into the hands of rascals, he lost 5000 l. by the business, with only 17 Protestant families, and 26 or 27 looms established for it. Upon his death, Lady Shelburne, wished to carry his scheme
into

into execution, and to do it, gave much encouragement to Mr. Wakefield, the great irish factor in London, by granting advantageous leases, under the contract of building and colonizing, by weavers from the north, and carrying on the manufactory. He found about 20 looms, working upon their own account, and made a considerable progress in this for five years, raising several buildings, cottages for the weavers, and was going on as well as the variety of his business would admit, employing 60 looms. He then died, when a stand was made to all the works for a year, in which every thing went much to ruin. Lady Shelburne then employed a new manager to carry on the manufacture upon his own account, giving him very profitable grants of lands, to encourage him to do it with spirit. He continued for five years, employing 60 looms also; but his circumstances failing, a fresh stop was put to the work.

THEN it was that Mr. Fitzmaurice, in the year 1774, determined to exert himself in pushing on a manufactory, which promised to be of such essential service to the whole country. To do this with effect, he saw that it was necessary to take it intirely into his own hands. He could lend money to the manager to enable him to go on, but that would be, at best, hazardous, and could never do it in the complete manner in which he wished to establish it. In this period of consideration, Mr. Fitzmaurice was advised by his friends, never to engage in so complex a business as a manufacture, in which he must of necessity become a merchant; also engage in all the hazard, irksomeness, &c. of commerce, so totally different from his birth, education, ideas and pursuits; but tired with the inactivity of common life, he determined not only to turn manufacturer, but to carry on the business in the most spirited and vigorous manner that was possible. In the first place he took every means of making himself a compleat master of the business; he went through various manufactures, enquired into the minutiae, and took every measure to know it to the bottom. This he did so repeatedly, and with such attention in the whole progress, from spinning to bleaching, and selling, that he became as thorough a master of it, as an experienced manager; he has woven linen, and done every part of the business with his own hands. As he determined to have the works complete, he took Mr. Stansfield, the engineer, so well known for his improved saw-mills, into his pay; he sent him over to Ballymoat, in the winter of 1774, in order to erect the machinery of a bleach mill, upon the very best construction; he went to all the great mills in the north of Ireland to inspect them, to remark their deficiencies, that they might be improved in the mills he intended to erect. This knowledge being gained, the work was begun, and as water was necessary, a great basin was formed, by a dam across a valley, by which means 34 acres were floated, to serve as a reservoir for dry seasons, to secure plenty at all times. All the machinery of the
mill

mill is perfectly well constructed, and worthy of the artist who formed it; in general it is upon the common principle of other bleach-mills, only executed in a manner much superior to any other in Ireland, but in several particulars it is much improved; a washing-wheel, on the new construction used in England, is added; beetlers are improved in their motion on the cylinder, by giving something more of time to their rebound; the motion given to the rubbing boards is in a manner different from the common, and in general, the wheels are all so proportioned, that every operation may go on in the full velocity, without one part being stopped at all upon account of another, which is not generally the case; the water wheel is also formed to work with the least quantity of water possible; all the works going on with no larger quantity than will flow through a pipe of a 9-inch bore. Here are two beetling cylinders, three pair of rubbing boards, a pair of stocks, a washing wheel, two large coppers for boiling or bucking, a room for drying, and another for folding, the whole contained in a well-erected edifice, 81 feet long, by 28 feet broad, and 17 high.

In the first year, 1774, not having a bleach green, he only kept the looms going, to sell the linen green; 65 in that year worked 1730 webs, each 50 yards long and seven-eighths broad, on an average 10 hundred linen. In 1775, the number of looms was 80, and they worked 2110 pieces of the same linen. At present the number is 90, and preparations are made for there being 120 by this time twelve-month; and Mr. Fitzmaurice has no doubt of having 300 in two years time. In establishing and carrying on this manufactory, the increase has been by weavers from the north, for whom he builds houses as fast as he can, and has many more applying than he can supply by building. They come with nothing but their families, and Mr. Fitzmaurice fixes them in houses, finds them a loom, and every thing necessary for their work, and employs them upon his own account; their rent for their house and garden being proportioned to their idleness.

THE full rent he fixes for a stone and slate cottage, that costs him 50l. is 40s. if the weaver is idle; but in proportion to the number of webs he weaves his rent is lowered; besides which encouragement, he gives premiums for the best weaving and spinning throughout the manufactory.

IN order to shew how far this system of employment is of importance to the neighbourhood, I may observe that the 80 looms, besides the 80 weavers, employed 80 persons more, which are usually women; quilling, warping, and winding; the quilling by children and half as many children for quilling in all 80 men, 80 women and 40 children.

The 2110 pieces worked last year consumed 132,930 hanks of yarn, at 63 to each, allowing for accident and waste, which is spun here, and

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as a woman spins a hank a day (it is 3 hank yarn) it employs at 300 days to the year, 443 women.

I should be particular in remarking, that all the houses he built for the weavers, have no more than half a rood of potatoe-garden to them, Mr. Fitzmaurice finding them a cow's grass, for which they pay 30s. He does this, because he would not wish to have them farmers, which he thinks does not at all agree with their business of weaving. He has planned much greater works; has procured a patent for a market, which he designs to establish; to build a large handsome market-house, at an expence of 1000l. to pull down all the old cabins in the town, and rebuild them in regular streets, of good houses, for weavers and mechanics. To convert a large house, at present used in the manufactory, into a handsome inn; a large house for a master weaver, and lastly, a mansion-house for himself in the stile of a castle, and suitable to the ancient ruins, situation, and grounds. For these purposes, he has employed Mr. Paine, the architect, to give designs, and execute the whole. These are great works for the ornament and improvement of a country, and united with the flourishing progress of the manufactory, promise to make Ballymoat a considerable place. Too much praise cannot be given to a man, who, in the prime of life, when pleasure alone usually takes the lead, should turn his attention and expence to objects of such national utility and importance, which have for their aim, the well being, happiness, and support of a whole neighbourhood.

It may be of use to inform those who may entertain thoughts of a similar establishment, what the expence of these works have been, with this view I requested the particulars of Mr. Fitzmaurice, and they are as follow: forming the reservoir of water, the bleach mill, a green, a boiling house, a house for the master bleacher, and 3 or 4 houses for bleachers, cost in the whole 1500l. of this 160l. was for forming the reservoir. A house of stone and slate sufficient to contain a family, and four looms, costs 55l. and the four looms 8l. 8s.

IN order to shew the full expence of establishing a manufactory, that employs 100 looms, the following particulars will be of use; they will also shew, that views of private profit have not actuated Mr. Fitzmaurice to this undertaking, as it is nothing but a very skilful management, or fortunate prices can make it advantageous to a gentleman, whose views ought to be more distant, to the increase of useful population, and thereby of the rental of his estate.

The bleach mill and green	-	-	1500	0	0
25 cottages for the 100 looms, at 55l.	-	-	1375	0	0
Other building for a clerk and master weaver	-	-	200	0	0
100 looms, yard-wide or under	-	-	210	0	0
Total buildings, &c.			£. 3285	0	0
			Interest		

Brought over	-	-	-	3285	0	0
Interest of that sum, at 6 per cent. for a year	-	-	-	197	0	0
163,800 hanks of yarn, at 63 to each piece, and 26 pieces to each loom, per annum, at five-pence three farthings per hank	-	-	-	3924	7	6
Purging the yarn, one halfpenny a hank	-	-	-	341	5	0
N. B. It is now sixpence-halfpenny, and even raising, but that is very high, 5d. is a low price.						
1 per cent. on ditto, 3900 for carriage and expences	-	-	-	39	0	0
Pay of 100 weavers at 3½d. a yard for a ten hundred cloth, or 14s. 7d. a piece, say 15s. as they run to 51 yards, 2637	-	-	-	1977	15	0
Pay of a master weaver	-	-	-	100	0	0
Pay of a yarn buyer and forter	-	-	-	25	0	0
Needle marking 2637 pieces, at 1d. each	-	-	-	10	19	9
As to bleaching, the fairest way, is to suppose, that the expence of it amounts to as much as the bleachers charge, which is 1¼d. a yard, this includes the bleachers profit, 6s. 4½d. a piece						
Package 5s. per pack, of 100 pieces, each 25 yards	-	-	-	13	4	0
Carriage to Dublin 20s. a pack of 100	-	-	-	53	0	0
Commission to the Dublin factor 2 per cent. on 5274 pieces, at 1s. 3d. a yard, or 1l. 7. 1d. a piece, or 82. 9l. two per cent. on this sum	-	-	-	164	15	0
N. B. On fine goods, 5 per cent. owing to the tediousness of selling them, and 5 months credit, instead of 2.						
Porterage in Dublin 2s. 6d. a pack	-	-	-	6	10	0
				<hr/> £. 10,978 6 3 <hr/>		

Annual expence.

Interest of the first stock	-	-	197	0	0
Yarn	-	-	3924	7	6
Purging and carriage	-	-	380	0	0
Weavers	-	-	1977	15	0
Overseers	-	-	125	0	0
Marking	-	-	10	19	9
Bleaching	-	-	840	10	0
Package and carriage	-	-	66	4	0
Commission	-	-	164	0	0
Porterage	-	-	6	10	0
				<hr/> £. 7692 6 3 <hr/>	

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As the money is turned juſt twice a year, half this is
to be charged as ſtock or - - - -

	3846	0	0
Buildings - - - -	3285	0	0

Therefore the capital for the undertaking is -	7131	0	0
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Intereſt on that, at 6 per cent. - - -	427	0	0
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Sundry expences on 5274 pieces - - -	7692	0	0
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	£.8119	0	0
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P R O D U C E.

5274 pieces, at 1l. 11s. 3d. - - -	8239	0	0
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Expences - - - -	8119	0	0
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Remains - - - -	120	0	0
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HENCE there appears to be ſome profit on this account, beſides all that is on the bleaching; alſo the rent of 25 houſes, which may be reckoned at 100l. a year.

BUT if they ſell only at 1l. 7s. 1d. the account would then be :

Expences - - - -	8119	0	0
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Produce 5274, at 27s. 1d. - - -	7141	0	0
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Loſs - - - -	978	0	0
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LET me obſerve upon this, that ſuch accounts are never accurate, and they ſhould be taken rather for framing general, than particular ideas. At firſt ſight, it might be thought, that proving too much in the little or no profit of ſuch an undertaking, is proving nothing, as the trade could never be carried on; but this would not be a juſt con- cluſion. The linen buſineſs is not conducted thus; the drapers, who are bleachers, purchaſe the linen, not weave it on their account; and here lies probably much of their profit, they take advantage of the va- riation of *times*, to uſe a commercial term, and often get the linen under its fair value; they have the opportunity of taking advantage of all temporary neceſſities among the weavers; but at all events, they know to a farthing the value they can give, and they do not buy a piece more than ſuits them. But if the weaving was done on their account, they would be obliged to make the linen, however dead the market, or elſe have their men idle. Another obſervation which goes generally to all undertakings of this ſort is, that the uniting in one perſon ſeveral branches of a manufacture, will rarely be found ad- vantageous. If every ſtep is a diſtinct trade, alone occupying both capital and attention, the fabric is the more like to thrive. That

Mr. Fitzmaurice, with great activity and a good understanding, can make himself a master of the business, nothing but contraction can doubt; but I question whether the most sagacious draper in Ireland would make considerably, if he wove the cloth as well as bleached it; hence therefore, the part of the preceding calculation the most applicable to gentlemen, is the detail of the expenditure of 3285l. because for that sum, 100 weavers and a bleacher would be set to work, to whom the landlord might give what encouragement he pleased in bounties per piece, made and bleached, but neither the one or the other on his own account. After all, I see every reason to assert, that a gentleman, for a shilling he will ever make by manufactory, will profit a guinea by the improvement of land; have rascals to deal with in one line, and honest men in the other.

MR. Fitzmaurice observes, that the art of bleaching depends so much on niceties, and not a little on matter of opinion in the drapers, who buy the linen, that it is difficult to lay down any rules for it; there are some points however, which deserve attention; first, in respect to the use of lime, which though great chymists have proved to be perfectly harmless and useful, if used with skill and caution, yet the bleachers positively deny the use of it, whether to indulge the prejudice of the common people against it, or for profit in making the worst ashes equal to the best, cannot be well ascertained. As to bucking and boiling, it is very observable that the finest linens being made of the hardest and toughest fibres of the flax, which stand the operation of scutching, (which by the way is a very strong reason why the finest linens should be incomparably more lasting than the coarser ones) make a distinction between boiling and bucking, the first is the most severe operation, and therefore necessary for the tough materials, the other proper for the coarse and weaker ones. But they are the same thing if done with attention; a thorough bucking is equal to a mild boiling, but depending both on the degree in which they are performed. With regard to rubbing boards, the general prejudice to them being founded on fact, can only arise from the bleachers saving soap; if used in a proper quantity, there is not the least objection to them.

ACCOUNT of flax about Ballymoat. The greater part of the poor people about Ballymoat allot about half a rood of land to the growth of flax, the rent 7s. 6d. this is sown with about five gallons of seed, medium price 5s. 6d. the 5 gallons. From breaking and scutching, the above yields to the grower, from 84 to 112 cwt. that is, 6 to 8 stone. If the flax be dried, as well as broke and scutched at the mill, the charge is 16d. a stone; if only the two latter, it is only 14d. or if scutched, only 10d. After scutching, it is worth, rough, 5s. to 6s. a stone.

DR.

	DR.
Rent - - -	0 7 6
Seed - - -	0 5 6
Breaking, drying, } and scutching }	0 10 8
Profit for labour -	0 16 4
	<hr/>
	£. 2 0 0

	CR.
Value of 8 stone. - - -	2 0 0

£. 2 0 0

AFTER scutching, it is heckled or split into small pieces of different qualities; one half produces the best sort, which is spun to about three hank yarn, that is, three hanks to the pound: the half of the remaining half, i.e. one quarter of the whole, is called hackled tow, and is spun into an inferior sort, two hank yarn; the remainder is called *backings*, and is spun into the coarsest stuff, of which is made sacking, coarse sheeting for the poor, &c. At this period the weight is not diminished above 4 lb. in the cwt. and the best sort is worth at a medium, 9d. a lb. the second sort worth 6d. and the coarsest about 1½d. after payment of 1d. per lb. for the two first sorts.

	DR.				CR.			
Rough flax	-	-	-	2 0 0	56 lb. heckled of best sort	-	-	2 2 0
Heckling	-	-	-	0 7 0	28 lb. at 6d.	-	-	0 14 0
Profit	-	-	-	0 12 0	Backings	-	-	0 3 0
				<hr/>				<hr/>
				£. 2 19 0				£. 2 19 0

THE hecklers generally travel about to the houses of poor people to get this work to do. Four men will be taken up 2 days in doing the above quantity. Spinning is performed by women and children; one diligent person will spin about one hank, containing 12 *ents*, each ent having 120 rounds, from two yards and a half in circumference in a day. If carried then to market, it generally produces 5d. per hank, or a dozen to the spinner, and is generally bought by jobbers or by poor manufacturers. Upwards of 40,000l. per ann. in yarn is exported from Sligo to Manchester and Liverpool. It is supposed that there is as much yarn exported raw from Ireland, as is manufactured in it. The first step taken by the manufacturer is to steep the yarn in lukewarm water for a day or two; it is then boiled 12 hours in a strong lee of barilla ashes, after which it is bleached for 3 weeks or a month, and when dry, is dressed and softened by being hung in a frame, and rubbed in a clipped stick, after which it is sorted into different degrees of fineness, first by weight, and then by the eye, when it is ready to be delivered to the weaver, with the *reed* and *geers* adapted to manufacturing it. The grist or fineness of the yarn, determines the *set* or fineness of the reed through which it is to be wrought. The reed is divided into *beers*, each beer containing 20 splits, each *split* two *threads*. These threads are called the *warp*. The threads

B b 2

thrown

thrown across by the shuttle are called the *woof*. Five beers are what is commonly called a *hundred*, the number of which hundred is regulated by the skill of the manufacturer, so as to make the cloth thick or thin in the breadth: and the number of these hundreds constitutes the fineness and value of the cloth. N. B. The extremities are from 400 splits in the breadth of one yard to 2500. The rule to ascertain the true value of any given piece of cloth by inspection with a glass. Apply the glass to the cloth, reckon the number of threads in the warp, which are magnified by the glass, and by as many threads as are so counted, so many hundreds is the fineness of the cloth, which hundreds when doubled, and half of the first number added, i. e. 10 threads giving as many hundreds, them doubled make 20, and half added 25. Of so many hanks of yarn does a piece of cloth of 20 yards consist of, fairly and honestly made. Learn the value of yarn, add the weaving and bleaching, and the addition gives the value out of the manufactory.

An acre.

Forty gallons seed, 1s. 6d.	-	-	-	3	0	0
Two ploughings	-	-	-	1	0	0
Two harrowings	-	-	-	0	6	0
Clodding, four women	-	-	-	0	2	0
Weeding, ten ditto	-	-	-	0	5	0
Pulling, twenty women, a day, 3d. and diet, 3d.	-	-	-	0	10	0
Binding, four men, 6d. and 3d. diet	-	-	-	0	3	0
Carrying, six horses, a day, at 1s. 6d.	-	-	-	0	9	0
Watering and foddering, six men	-	-	-	0	4	6
Taking out, four men	-	-	-	0	1	6
Spreading, twelve women	-	-	-	0	6	0
Lifting, twelve women	-	-	-	0	6	0
Carrying, two cars and four men	-	-	-	0	6	0
Drying, four men and four women	-	-	-	0	5	0
Twelve kishes turf, 8d.	-	-	-	0	8	0
Bectling, forty women	-	-	-	1	0	0
Scutching, 1s. a stone, fifty-six stone	-	-	-	2	16	0
Heckling, 8d. a stone for the flax, 1d. per lb. for the tow, 4lb. of the first to the stone, scutched, or 14 stone, heckled, at 8d.	-	-	-	0	9	4
Three pound of tow to the stone, 168 lb. at 1d.	-	-	-	0	14	0
Rent	-	-	-	0	16	0
						<hr/>
						£. 13 10 4
						<hr/>

If

If the land is hired ready dressed	-	-	-	11	8	4
Rent	-	-	-	2	0	0
						<hr/>
						13 8 4
						<hr/>
This if a cottar, but if not the rent is 3l. which will make it	-	-	-	14	8	4
						<hr/>
Value of the heckled flax, 7d. to 1s. average 9d. a lb. or 12s. a stone	-	-	-	8	8	0
One hundred sixty-eight pound of tow, at 6d.	-	-	-	4	4	0
Six pound of Backings to the stone, 336 lb. at one halfpenny	-	-	-	0	14	0
						<hr/>
						£. 13 6 0
						<hr/>

Very little weaving in Sligo, but a little scattered spinning every where; the women earn 3d. or 4d. a day, by a hank a day. 80,000l. of yarn last year exported from the port of Sligo. Price of labour, cottars 5d. others 6d. Heaps of weeds burning all over the country for ashes for boiling the yarn, by poor people. An acre of weeds has been sold for 6l. 6s. One sixth of the county bog and mountain, the rest 15s. an acre. The farms rise to large ones, that are grazing, but all the tillage is carried on by cottars, or very inconsiderable ones. The courses are;

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes.

BARONY of Corra, the best in the county; the high lands all lime-stone. Rent about Ballymoat, 20s. Potatoes yield 26 barrels, at the average price of six shillings, it weighs 10 cwt. Wheat yields six and a half, or seven barrels. Oats 10 ditto. A great plenty of marle, and lime-stone, and lime-stone gravel in all the country, but none used, except by such as are forced to do it by their landlords. Of these the most generally used is the lime-stone gravel. A good deal of mountain, improved by little farmers, by their landlord's directions. John Kelly, a little cottar on Mr. Fitzmaurice's estate, is a strong instance of this, and his mode of doing it, has been by paring and burning, and spreading the ashes. He then puts in potatoes immediately, gets good crops, then good oats, and would, if he was able, sow grafs feeds.

SUNDAY, august 26th, to the Rt. Hon. Joshua Cooper's, at Mercra, who not only received me with the utmost politeness, but was so obliging as to send for a neighbouring gentleman, in order between them, with other assistance, to answer all my questions, which was done in the most attentive and satisfactory manner. About which place the rent of land, on an average, 15s. Some of the mountains, that are not lime-stone, let for very little,

2s. but the lime-stone ones are good land universally, and yield almost as high rent as the rest of the country. Farms in culture are exceedingly small, the poor people divide and take them in partnership, four or five to a plough land of 100 acres, but they subdivide down to five or six acres, and in general all the tillage is done by these little occupiers. There are some large grazing farms up to above 1000 acres, which are under sheep and bullocks. One seventh of the county may be reckoned bog, and unimproved mountain, and the other 6-7ths, 15s. Mayo one third, perhaps half, bog and mountain, and two-thirds, at 12s. Galway more than one-third bog, mountain and lakes. The courses of crops pursued here;

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.
7. Oats. 8. Left out seven years to sheep.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.
7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.
7. Potatoes.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley, which is the best course I have met with in Ireland. Wheat is coming in in the following course,

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats, 4 or 5 years. Some wheat on summer fallow. Grafs land hired for potatoes, at 5l. if not an acre, is

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Cefs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4
Tythe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
Manuring labour, 20 men, and 3 horses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	0
Seed, thirty pecks, each 6d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Putting in first digging, 30 men, at 6d.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Second covering, shovelling ditto	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Third ditto, fifteen men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	6
Weeding, eight men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
Digging up, fixty men a day	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Picking and gathering, one man to four	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	6
Carrying home, five men and five horses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Picking over and shifting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0

£. 7 4 4

PRODUCE.

300 pecks, 56 lb. each, at 6d. per peck - - 7 10 0

If they, which is very common, hire grafs land for it, the rent is 4l. 4s. on an average, then

Rent - - - - - 4 4 0
Other expences as before - - - - - 6 9 0

10 13 0
PRODUCE.

PRODUCE.

Three hundred and fifty pecks, at 6d.	-	-	-	8	15	0
Profit	-	-	-	£. 1	18	0

MANY are planted in bogs that are drained ; they are the first thing they plant, manuring with both lime-stone gravel and dung, the first will not do alone, very little dung will do : the crops are superior in quantity to those from any other land, they will get 50 pecks more than from the grafs land. They feed their cows and pigs with them when plentiful. Mr. O'Hara of Nymphsfield fattened many bullocks with them, and found that they did exceedingly well. Of barley they sow a barrel per acre, which is here 14 stone, and get on an average 14 barrels an acre. In Terrera barony they get great crops, sometimes 20 barrels an acre. They sow 2 barrels of 12 stone of oats, the mean produce 10 barrels, some not above 5 or 6. Of wheat they sow 12 stone, and the crop 6 barrels. Every body sows a patch of flax ; a farming cottar, with 6 or 7 acres, will sow 6 or 8 gallons. The quantity of seed 40 gallons per acre. The value *fold on the foot* is in general 8l. and the crop is calculated that a gallon of seed produces a stone of scutched flax, or 40 stone per acre. The quantity of waste improved is very considerable ; it is moory mountain, about 12 inches deep. In much of this, immediately under the moor, is a thin stratum of what they call *lack-clay*, which is like baked clay, the thickness of a tile, and no water gets through it. Under it lime-stone gravel. Trenching the land for potatoes, breaks this stratum, and lets the water through at once, and no other drains are necessary. In less than a century, almost the whole country, as well as Roscommon, was a moor. The mode taken has been by lime-stone gravel chiefly, and this goes on so much, that the moors are worth a considerable rent ; the crops they give at first are very great. The expence of gravelling is 2l. 2s. an acre. 2000 horse-loads in baskets on their backs is the quantity, it changes the nature both of moors and clays intirely, and lasts for ever.

In this country there are large tracts of grafs land, which will rear the largest oxen, but will not fatten them ; but if gravelled, will fatten them perfectly. Lime not used as a manure in common, though there is an amazing quantity in the country ; the price of burning will be four-pence halfpenny a barrel of roach lime. A barrel of turf will burn a barrel of lime ; a barrel of turf is one-third of a kish. Turf mold laid on a clay meadow will give one good crop. The system of cattle is various ; the graziers upon good grafs buy in cows in the month of may, at 3l. 10s. average, and sell out in november and october, at a profit of 1l. 10s. also buy oxen 3 year old in october, give them coarse hay, and sell them fat or in good order the autumn following ; buy in at 4l. 10s. and sell out at 7l. and he will take for meadow half an acre of hay, and one and a half for summer ; besides which there will be one sheep and a half per acre the year through, which will pay 12 s. Upon worse land

land they go into the succession system, which is buying year olds at 25s. on an average : these, as well as the preceding for cattle, which at 4 year old come to 5 cwt. which is the common size of the county. He keeps them 3 years, and felling them lean at 4l. 10s. but these systems are always united on the same farm, as they have all sorts of cattle to suit different soils. No dairies.

THE sheep system is not of consequence, for there are scarce any flocks kept. Twenty years ago the baronies of Corra and Terrera were continued sheep-walks; but now the former is all potatoes and barley, and much of the latter is broken up, so that upon the whole tillage has gained very much on grass. The sheep there kept are both fattening and breeding; they keep their lambs till three year wethers, and sell them fat at 16s. that is, 18 lb. a quarter, at 2d, a lb. The ewe lambs will be kept, and old ewes culled and sold off half fat, at 10s. The fleeces on the average of the whole will be 4 lb. Mr. Ormsby gets 8 and 10 lb. from his wethers. Swine increasing, no pork exported from Sligo till last year, but now they are getting into it. Horses are used for tillage only, 4 in a plough abreast, and some harrowing still done BY THE TAIL; they will plough half an acre a day, or more commonly three days to an acre. Upon wet lands they plough into ridges arched, but never water furrow. They know nothing of cutting chaff, but let the wind blow that of their crops away. As to hiring and stocking farms, they manage so as to do without capital; a grazier will re-let to his cottars as much of his land as high as he can; enough to pay his rent or near it, and as to the poor fellow, he manages with very little. 3l. per acre will do for buying the cattle for a grazing farm.

LAND sells at 20 years purchase, rack rent, The rents are less than 5 or 6 years ago, but are rather rising at present. Tythes are generally taken in kind; they are let to tythe proctors, who are paid wheat 8s. Barley 6s. Oats 4s. Flax 8s. Potatoes none tythed in Connaught, Hay 3s. Leases 3 lives, or 31 years. Much of it let on leases renewable for ever. Middle men, who occupy none, is a practice declining, but not gone out. Two bolting mills erected, which begin to increase the crops of wheat, and promise to change the face of the country. The people throughout it increase very fast most undoubtedly. Their circumstances in general are infinitely better than 20 years ago; they are clothed and fed better, are much more industrious; spalpeens going from hence declines much, and will soon be entirely out. Rent of a cabin and garden 20s. The grass of a cow 30s. There were some emigrations to America, but not considerable, and some of them are come back again. The religion in general catholic; but more protestants than in any other county in Connaught. In the baronies of Liny and Corra, there are many milesian irish; in Mayo more still, all of the spanish breed. The food of the poor people is potatoes, milk, and herrings, with oaten bread in summer; all keep cows, not pigs, and but a few poultry. They have an absolute bellyfull of potatoes, and the children eat them as plentifully as they like. The average price of oatmeal something less than 1d. a pound. All of them have a bit of cabbages. They prefer oat bread both to potatoes and to wheat bread. All as-
ford

ford whisky. A year's turf will cost a family 30s. The common people are so amazingly addicted to thieving every thing they can lay their hands on, that they will unshoe the horses in the field in the barony of Liny; they are also lyars from their cradle, but wonderfully sagacious, cunning, and artful.

WITHIN 10 miles of this, in Leitrim, is a great country of good coal near the surface; but for want of being well worked, sells at 7s. a ton: and near Ballysodare is a lead mine, but not worked with success, though very rich. As to the linen manufactory, it has made some progress; there are 6 bleach greens in the county, and there are many weavers. Spinning is universal in all the cabbins. A woman will earn two-pence halfpenny at it. The rents are mostly paid by yarn.

MR. COOPER has reclaimed, and is reclaiming 65 acres of bog, which is 12 feet deep, and was so wet and rotten, that no animal could go on it without being swallowed up: much of it had been so mangled and cut in holes to get turf, that the levelling in order for the plough was put out at 1l. 10s. an acre. A great drain was made round it 9 feet broad at top, 10 deep, and quite narrow at bottom, and repeated these drains, but not so large at the distance of 60 yards from each other. A drain of 9 feet wide at top, and 6 deep, costs 10d. 2 perch. The above drains were done by the day. In one year after, the bog was dry enough to plough, which he did, and burnt the furrow and sowed rape: the crop middling, eat it with sheep. The second year ploughed and burnt it again, and had a second crop of rape; after which another year of rape and turneps, and it now lies with the grasses that came of themselves after these operations: it is but indifferent, except in one place where some lime-stone gravel was scattered, and there it is good, promising well. Adjoining the bog is a wet springy bank full of rushes, from which Mr. Cooper apprehends the water comes that breaks out in the bog, which it does in a few places, for want of the surrounding drain on that side being completed. To such as have bogs to improve, he would recommend to surround the space to be improved with a drain so deep as to go to the gravel, which is a point he thinks very necessary; as when this is done, if there is any fall at all for the water, the drain will keep open, and not close up, as it will do if not so deep, for want of a hard surface for the water to run off on. A year after this work, plough it, burn the furrow, and sow rape for sheep food, levelling the land by ploughing and burning; and repeat this till level, or if there is any dung, potatoes is much the best crop, and will be a great produce. As soon as the land is level, sow oats and hay seeds, and when there is a skin of turf gained, then carry on the lime-stone gravel in preference to every thing else, if it is to be had: the effect of which is so strong as to change heath to white clover at once upon drained land. The more soapy the gravel is the better: and Mr. Cooper, from experience, knows that it would then set as meadow at 30s. an acre as long as it was kept from returning to its original state. As to the quantity of draining, cutting it into oblongs of 300 yards by 60, would be fully sufficient: these have laid his bog dry.

TURNEPS Mr. Cooper has cultivated these 17 years regularly, with great success, for stall-feeding oxen, and has found them of great use. Cabbages he has had these four years, the scotch fort, borecole, and Reynold's turnep-cabbage; these he has used for fattening sheep, and never had such sheep as by this means. He prefers cabbages to turneps much for all uses, can get larger crops, and what he gets goes farther, and are much preferred by both cattle and sheep: after them, he has got exceeding fine barley. In the breed of cattle Mr. Cooper has taken pains to improve by means of a lancashire bull, of Mr. Parker's breed, and this with such success, that his cattle are all very fine, large, and well made; all lancashire long horns, with a mixture of the stafford and warwick. He has also found that this improvement of the breed for fatting has not hurt his dairy, for his cows give 8 quarts of milk at a meal, which is esteemed very well here: for fattening the breed is excellent. Oxen he has used for tillage, &c. 18 years, instead of horses; works them in common yokes, and bows 4 or 6 in a plough; but he thinks that four horses will do more work in a day than four oxen: yet finds the latter incomparably the most profitable. Mules he finds of the greatest use. They are much longer lived than horses, hardier, easier fed, and more profitable: but this is principally applicable to the small irish mule, and not the large ones from Spanish asses, which are not so hardy, and more liable to disorders. They are never fed so well as horses, yet go through more labour: and are much superior to them for carrying burthens. One caution, however, should be used in relation to their food. If wheat straw is cut into chaff and given, it will kill them; the late bishop of Elphin lost all his mules by it. Mr. Cooper has fattened many hogs on potatoes, and he has found that raw potatoes will fatten them very well, but the fat will be flabby and greasy; but if the potatoes are parboiled, and well sprinkled with salt, the flesh will be firm, and perfectly good. He once tried fattening a cow on them, and she did admirably, but eat so much, that at the very lowest price it would not answer to give them. He has improved much land by hollow draining, has done it with fods, and found that it answers perfectly.

SLIGO is the only sea-port of this country, and the state of its trade may be taken, as no bad explanation of the improvement of the country around it with which it communicates.

A view of the duties on imports and exports in the port of Sligo for twenty years, ending Lady-day, 1775.

Years.	Imports.			Exports.		
1756	£. 1208	11	4	£. 26	11	7
1757	216	12	0	15	13	10
1758	425	10	1	23	11	11
1759	504	11	6	45	1	0

Years.

Years.	Imports.			Exports.		
1760	£. 518	9	8	£. 45	6	3
1761	384	19	4	51	13	0
1762	640	6	11	73	17	11
1763	1017	11	7	104	17	7
1764	1187	15	3	131	3	2
1765	1458	9	4	102	17	0
1766	406	12	7	120	1	4
1767	486	7	2	92	17	7
1768	1178	12	3	160	8	6
1769	998	14	6	487	17	2
1770	1122	2	4	523	6	7
1771	1554	19	0	309	2	0
1772	841	16	7	471	9	1
1773	2477	17	11	835	11	10
1774	2418	5	4	730	11	4
1775	2256	8	1	956	0	6

MR. COOPER has remarked, that the great improvement of this part of Ireland commenced about the year 1748, and that rents now are, to what they were before that period, as fifteen to six. Some farms bought in 1725, at 5s. 6d. an acre, and twenty years purchase, are now lett at 18s.

AUGUST 26th, left Mercra, and went to Ballasadore, when I had great pleasure in viewing the falls; the river breaks over rocks in the most romantic manner, from edge to edge, in many falls, for the space of two hundred yards before it comes to the principal one, which is twelve or fourteen feet perpendicular; the scenery about it is bold, the features of the mountains are great, and Knocknaree in full relief; if the falls were through a dark wood, the scenery would be among the finest in the world.

To Tanrego, the seat of Lewis Irwin, Esq; (who favoured me with several articles of useful intelligence) situated in the barony of Tyrera, which is twenty-seven miles long, and cultivated from one and an half to three in breadth, by the sea side; lets from 12s. to 17s. an acre, a little for 20s. The soil a light sandy loam, on lime-stone, one foot to two deep. Farms are in general from twenty to thirty acres; many taken in partnership, four to eight families take two hundred acres.

1. Manure with wrack for potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley. 4. Barley. 5. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Potatoes again.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for grafs.

No seeds, in one or two years white clover will come if not over-cropped. For potatoes, from 100 to 150 horse loads sea weed, mix no dung with it. Plant twelve pecks, each 56 lb. and get twelve to twenty fold, that is 144 to 249 pecks. Of barley, they get thirteen or fourteen barrels per acre. Of oats, ten barrels. They burn vast quantities of kelp, in the whole barony, three hundred tons, all in summer; in winter or spring they manure with it. The brown alga, which is the more luxuriant, and fuller of the saponaceous liquid, they don't manure with, thinking it too strong for the land, burning it up as they call it; but if they would lay it in heaps till rotten, or made composts, neither of which they ever do at all, this would not be the case. They manure with it every six or seven years. Mr. Irwin spreads it in his pound upon a stratum of potatoe stalks, and over both one of turf and mould, for cattle to tread on to manure, this is a most excellent practice. The mountains nearest to the sea, are chiefly stocked with sheep, and farther in, with young cattle near the bog. Upon a part of these mountains, of three miles in extent, whatever sheep feed, are immediately killed by the staggers, and horses affected; there is a good deal of lime-stone, and the land is dry, and to appearance, and in fact, good; it fattens bullocks; it is attributed to the lead mines, which this part is supposed to be full of. When first affected, if brought down to a salt marsh, it recovers them immediately. Within a few miles of Tanrego, is Glanek, and Loch Alt, six to ten miles broad, and twenty long, one continued chain of mountain and bog. Three-fourths of Sligo bog, and uncultivated mountain. In the above tract, lime-stone every where, in some, lime-stone gravel, and a good road runs through it; in all this, no cultivation or improvements. Mr. Irwin, upon a part of this country, tried about an acre of boggy, moory mountain, to see if paring and burning would do, it answered greatly, and the best potatoes in the country were there next year. Lime he also tried, and with great success; he did this in order to shew the people that their wastes were improveable. Upon the sea-shore are immense beds of oyster shells, which are burnt into lime for building and plaistering, as they take much less fuel; these hills received no little increase from all the gentlemen of the interior country coming to the sea-coast to eat oysters, where having filled themselves sufficiently in the mornings, they got drunk in the evening; this was in the *uncivilized* times. Most of the gentlemen of this country were Cromwell's soldiers, and many welch families, Jones's, Morgan's, Wynn's, &c. In the barony of Tyrera flax is universally cultivated; a man with twenty acres will have a rood, which is sown with five gallons of seed; all the females spin, but the number of weavers is inconsiderable. Walked down to the coast of Tanrego, immediately opposite Knocknaree, which rises very boldly; the bay of Ballyfadore comes up under it, and Ylanabaolane island, of
five

five or six acres, so rich, that it will fatten nine sheep an acre; it forms Sligo bay.

To Sortland, the seat of —— Browne, Esq; to whom I am obliged for the following particulars.

THE barony of Tyreragh, black mold on lime-stone 6 inches to a foot deep, lets at 18s. average. The farms are various, generally taken in partnership, which is found a most mischievous custom, and destructive to all good husbandry. The course;

1. Potatoes manured with sea weed. 2. Barley produce 15 barrels. 3. Oats 10 barrels. 4. Oats. Very little ever laid out to grass.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Flax on spots.

THE sea-weed the only manure, and they depend intirely on it, and apt to do that too much neglecting other parts of management. The circumstances of the people are not at all improved in 20 years, they are not better fed or clothed, or in any respect better off than formerly. Nor are they at all industrious, even of sea weed they do not make one half the advantage they could, they might get an hundred loads where they get one. They increase in number very greatly, so as to be evidently crowded; this has been the case particularly since inoculation was introduced, which was about ten years ago. They live upon potatoes and milk, and for 3 months in the year, on oatmeal. Mr. Browne is convinced from every observation, that the potatoes are a very wholesome and nourishing food. The linen manufacture consists only in spinning, which is universal in all the cabins, and it is so much, that they are assisted by it, in paying their rents. They earn 3d. a day by spinning: one lb. of flax for three hank yarn a woman is 4 days spinning.

WITHIN a mile of Sortland is a vast bog, which stretches ten miles in length, and two or three over. It is a black one, 16 spit deep. There are hillocks in it of lime-stone gravel, but lime-stone is not to be found near it in general, tho' not searched for with any attention. It is, however, so cheap here that any improvements might be worked; Mr. Browne can burn it at 3d. a barrel roach. He hires 1100 acres of this bog, of Mr. King, of Ballina, at 4l. a year, tho' he has not improved it, has no doubt of its being improveable, and remarks that he never yet saw a bog that had not a fall enough to drain by. In the barony of Tyreragh, there are a few grazing farmers, but not many. Mr. Nesbit is the greatest, he farms above 3000 acres. Not a third of the county is bog and mountain, but more than half Mayo is so: average rent of the whole county, exclusive of bog and mountain, 16s. an acre. The shore is a very fruitful one in sea weed, which is burnt into kelp in summer; they pay a rent for it by the ton of what they get.

FROM

From the slate quarry to Enniscrone, 9 miles, they make 200 tons of kelp. The men have 17s. to 20s. a ton for serving, making, and burning, and it sells at 21. 2s. There is not half so much used in manure as in burning. It is made all the way from this country to Galway. Mules, Mr. Browne thinks superior to horses, for carrying back loads, but much inferior in drawing ploughs and cars. They are so long lived, that the age is scarce ever asked when they are bought; they will live in common, in full work, to 30 years. They will also in bog, draw out their legs infinitely better, tho' they go deeper in. From 100 ewes, Mr. Browne sells 100 three year old wethers, fat, at 18s. to 20s. also 20 old ewes at 13s. 300 fleeces at 4lb. at 1s. or 45l. Buys in yearling bullocks at 40s. and sells out at 7l. gets thereby 5l. for keeping 2 years and a half. No hay given, except in snow. He has improved twenty acres of dry moor from heath, it would not yield any rent, but now would let for 15s. an acre. The moor was one foot deep on lack clay; and under that a loose gravel, not lime-stone. Marled it at the rate of 150 barrels an acre, which cost in labour 5s. white marle from under a bog; spread it, and left it for a year, which killed the heath effectually, then ploughed it twice, and took two successive crops of potatoes, without dung, the first an extraordinary one, the second not bad: then two crops of barley, which were very good: then oats two crops, both very good, and then set it at 15s. an acre. If he had ever such quantities of such land, he would never stop from the improvement of it, being amazingly profitable.

AUGUST the 27th, to Ballyna, where I experienced the most polite reception from the Right Honourable Mr. King; the views of the distant mountains is very fine; the country is almost encompassed by them. Those of Donnegal to the right, a great ridge, which separates Tyreragh to the left, Nephin-noble in the front, and Knockaree behind. Many kilns for drying corn in the road. Passed 3 miles of pasturage under cattle, before I came to the river leading to Ballyna. The views there are very beautiful, it spreads in different reaches. That of Ballina is uncommonly pleasing; the river a noble bend to a few rising grounds on which a part of the town is seen; beyond it the bridge, and the whole crowned by the Nephin mountain, which rises with a magnificent regularity from its base, and is one of the finest mountains I have seen.

AT Ballyna is a salmon fishery, let for 520 l. a year, which is one of the most considerable in the kingdom; generally seventy or eighty tons salted, besides the fresh. Close almost to this fishery is a very pretty, and well-planted farm, belonging to Mr. Jones. Mr. Lindsay, the owner of this fishery, improved sixteen acres of moor, covered with heath, in the following manner: he covered it with lime-stone gravel, at the expence of 30s. an acre, left it two years, by which time the heath
was

was all dead ; then ploughed it the end of summer, and in a month harrowed it ; ploughed it, and harrowed it again after Christmas, and in the spring set it to poor people, for potatoes, at 4l. an acre ; they got a very good crop ; next year ploughed it, and set it for a second crop, reversing the ridges, at three guineas. After this crop, barley, and got a good crop, sowing grass seeds with it.

MR. Gore, of Ballina, had been mentioned to me as one of the most considerable in cattle of any person in Connaught ; he was not at home, but his son-in-law, the Right Hon. Mr. King, was so kind as to procure me the particulars of his domain. Mr. Gore's breed of horned cattle is fine. Some years ago he sold heifers at 50l. a piece, and now from ten to twenty guineas ; the breed not declined, but purchasers not quite so mad as they were. Yearling bulls 20 guineas. This breed he got from Yorkshire 30 or 40 years ago. His breed of sheep is also excellent, being much improved by rams from England. He improves much moory land and bog, generally 10 or 15 acres every year, by lime-stone gravel and marle. Average rent of Tyreragh 12s. Walked in the evening to a most noble garden, walled and planted by Mr. King : it is one of the completest I have seen in Ireland.

AUGUST 28th, took my departure from Ballina, and waited on the bishop of Killala. I wished to have some information concerning that vast wild and impenetrable tract of mountain and bog, the barony of Erris. His Lordship and Mr. Hutcheson were so kind as to give me every particular in their power. The only cultivated part is the peninsula called the Mullet, where they plant a good deal of potatoes, barley, and flax, by means of sea weed ; and there is a rabbit warren, the skins of the rabbits yielding 100l. a year. The rest of it is without cultivation, except in small patches here and there ; and it is supposed, generally speaking, to be without lime-stone or lime-stone gravel, but probably no great search has been made in so dreary a region. It is no easy matter to get in or out of it in winter ; and very few persons ever attempt it from november to easter, having impassable bogs in the way. There were 896 families in the barony in 1765, 400 of which are inhabitants of the Mullet : 47 protestant, and 849 popish. The bishop of Killalla has built a house in the Mullet for a clergyman, who resides there ; the living is between 50l. and 60l. a year, and 40 acres of land, which the bishop has given from the fee lands. This may truly be called a sphere for content, and the philosophic virtues to exert themselves in ; there is not a post-house, market-town, or justice of peace, in the whole barony, which is also the case with another barony in this county Costello. A post-house and a market are excellent things, but a justice may very well be dispensed with. There are many herds of small cattle, and some sheep kept, which are sold from thence. There is not a tree in the whole barony of Erris ; a man going out of it to pay his rent, &c. his son
with

with him, a lad of near twenty, when he came near Killalla, and saw a tree, "Lord, Father! what is that?" But bare of wood as it is at present, it was, in the sylvan age of Ireland, completely covered: for in no part of the kingdom is there found more or larger in the bogs.

THE barony of Tyrawly is among the best parts of the county of Mayo; 800 bullocks, most of them fat, are sold from it annually at Ballynasloe fair, which are kept here from being year olds, and sold at 4l. The quantity of tillage is very inconsiderable, but what there is, is vastly improved by the use of sea weed. Lands near the sea let at 20s. which at two miles, would yield but 14s. merely from being too far, as they reckon, to carry the sea weed. The poor people in this barony are not improved in their circumstances in eighteen years past, that the bishop has resided at Killalla. There is some weaving, so that there is scarcely a market at Ballina, or Killalla, without some linens sold. Spinning is universal in all the cabbins, but the yarn is only four-hank yarn. They spin and weave wool enough to cloath themselves, with drugget, yard-wide, for the women, at 1s. a yard, and frize for the men; at a *flatt*, or measure, four feet two inches long, and 20 to 23 inches wide, which sells from 1s. 11d. to 2s. 4d. Their food is potatoes, cockles, herrings, and a little meal; and when the potatoes are out, on oatmeal only. They do not all keep cows, but the majority do, and those who do not, buy milk. Beef 1d. per lb. in autumn, twenty years ago, now three halfpence. Fish very plentiful; I partook of three gurnet, two mackarel, and one whiting, at the bishop's table, which his steward bought for sixpence halfpenny, enough to dine six people. Lobsters plentiful. Turbot 3d. a pound. There are 150 boats belonging to the bay of Killalla, or Moy, and to the town, from twenty to twenty-five, five men to a boat, the boat has a fifth, the nets two-fifths, and the crew two-fifths; the two-fifths belonging to the crew, are subdivided into sixths, of which the skipper has two. The herrings are caught near the bar, and in the river Moy; the fishery begins in october, and lasts only two or three weeks. They judge of the shoal being there by the Gant, a bird that pursues the fish; they sometimes get each boat 10,000 herrings, which is a full load, but this is very rare, in general a good night's work is from 3000 to 5000, and the price is from thirteen pence to two and sixpence, the medium 1s. 8d. per hundred, or 16s. 8d. per thousand; consequently a night's work 2l. 10s. The boat is 4 ton, and costs 20l. and the nets 10l. Seven share of nets to each boat, each share sixty yards long, and four fathom deep, eight score mesh. The nets are all made here; the poor people use flax, but others use hemp; they bark them, but none tar and oil. The fishery was once much more considerable than at present. There is no ship belonging to this port, they had one, but that wicked fellow, Thurot, took her, and quite unshipped the harbour.

AUGUST

AUGUST 29th, took my leave of the good bishop, to whom, and his son, Mr. Hutcheson, I am obliged for the preceding particulars and many civilities. Breakfasted with the Rev. Mr. Garrat, at Foxford; passed over some very fine reddish sandy loams, till I came to a hill, from whence an extensive tract of bog is seen. - Rents about Foxford are 12s. for cultivated, arable, and pasture, and thence to Castle-bar the same. From Foxford to Tubbercurry sixteen miles of bad country; the best of the cultivated land 12s. some at 8s. and 10s. but these rents are only the improved spots: they are improving the moors and mountains very fast, particularly the estates of Mr. Rutledge and Lynch. It is done with white marle from under bogs. It must not be imagined that when I speak of mountains and moors in Mayo, or its wild barony Erris, that these lands yield no rent; they are let in the lump, and applied to feeding cattle. They put on two year old bullocks, and keep them till full three, when they bring them to the good grounds, and from thence take them to Ballynasloe. These mountains will not do for year olds. Some of them are unhealthy for cattle; for if they are left more than a month or six weeks on them, they are disordered with lumps on their joints, so that they cannot rise from the ground; yet at the same time shall be in good order, it disappears on a change of pasture. Red deer run wild in the mountains of Erris.

To Castle-bar, over an indifferent country, and a vile stoney road; about that town the husbandry is admirable. They have three customs, which I must begin with; first they harrow by the tail, item the fellow who leads the horses of a plough, walks backward before them the whole day long, and in order to make them advance, strikes them in the face: their heads I trow are not apt to turn. Item, they burn the corn in the straw, instead of threshing it. Among their customs it may be worth mentioning, that at the wakes or funeral entertainments, in addition to the circumstances I related at Castle Caldwell, both men and women, particularly the latter, are hired to cry, that is, to howl the corps to the grave, which they do in a most horrid manner: they are not so disagreeable, however, in Munster, as I was told. The quantity of whisky and tobacco consumed upon these occasions is pretty considerable. In the lake of Castle-bar, near that town, is the char, and the Gillaroo trout with gizzards, and it is remarkable that there are no pike in the lakes of this country. Land lets at 15s. to 20s. cultivated, both grass and arable: town parks 40s. The mountains are reclaiming by lime-stone sand and gravel; it is the common cottars who do it. There are more than 500 affidavits sent to the Dublin Society upon this account, in which I was told they are apt to be deceived, as well as in the corn standings. There are very large farms in this neighbourhood, even up to 2000l. a year: but all the great ones are stock farms, and most of the tillage of the country is performed by little fellows, cottars, and tenants to these large farmers. Eight or nine years

ago there were no linens here, but now 300 pieces are sold in a week, 200 looms are employed in the town and neighbourhood, yet great quantities of yarn are sent off. The town, which belongs to Lord Lucan, is greatly rising from manufactures; the houses are well built, yet only 31 years, or 3 lives granted.

In the evening reached Westport, Lord Altamont's, whose house is very beautifully situated, upon a ground rising gently from a fine river, which makes two bold falls within view of his windows, and sheltered on each side by two large hanging woods; behind, it has a very fine view of the bay, with several headlands projecting into it one beyond another, with two or three cultivated islands, and the whole bounded by the great mountain of Clara Island, and the vast region of Crow-Patrick, on the right; from the hill above the wood, on the right of the house, is a view of the bay, with several islands, bounded by the hummocks, and Clara Island, with Crow Patrick immediately rising like the superior lord of the whole territory, and looking down on a great region of other mountains that stretch into Joyce's country.

In Lord Altamont I found an improver, whose works deserved the closest attention; he very readily favoured me with the following account: he began to improve mountain land in 1768, and has every year since done some, making it a rule to employ whatever labourers offer for work. All of it covered with heath, (*erica vulgaris*) and the soil on the surface moor; would let for two shillings an acre for turning young cattle on, the only use to which it was applied.

EXPERIMENT, No. I.

IMPROVED a piece of mountain land, of the above description, by spreading lime-stone sand. (N. B. The marle called here *sand*, is what I have generally found under the denomination of lime-stone *gravel*; the stones in it are of the size of a man's double fist, it is clayey, and very hard bound together in the stratum; the harder to raise, the better it is. It has a strong fermentation with acids.) Spread the sand on the heath, and left it for one year, at the expence of 1l. 1s. dunged it, and planted potatoes; found great difficulty in digging it from the roots of a kind of grafs, like a rush, called *keeb don*, in english, *black keeb*. The crops very bad. Dunged it the year following for oats; the crop very fine, and repeated them the next year. Left the oat stubble, and it covered itself so with good natural grafs, that the next year mowed a crop of hay, and the same two years more. Finding it not well reclaimed from having ploughed it too soon after the sanding, gave it a new manuring at nearly the same expence; did not plough it any more, but such of the stones as had not sunk of themselves, were beat in with mallets, at the expence of 2s. 6d. an acre, in order to smooth it for mowing. This was very practicable, having two spits of boggy turf on the surface. Ever since it has been excellent meadow, worth 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre.

EXPE-

E X P E R I M E N T, No. 2.

IN 1764, improved another piece, fanding it at 40s. an acre, owing to the distance; left it two years on the land, and then set it at 40s. to the poor people for potatoes; after which took three noble crops of oats. Then left to grafs, and the first year mowed a great crop, and set it for 16s. an acre.

E X P E R I M E N T, No. 3.

IN 1765, began with fifty acres more of mountain land, but full of heath. First drew off the stones, and made a wall round it six feet high, and the stones not wanted for this, threw down the river, some of which were so large that it took sixteen bullocks to draw them. Expence 30s. an acre, besides 1s. 6d. a perch for the wall. Dug and burnt it, and spread the ashes, 2l. 2s. an acre; it was before too rough and coarse to plough. Then ploughed it with bullocks, and sowed rape; the crop middling, where the ashes were yellow, good, where white, bad; seeded the rape, and then dug it, and limed it, 160 barrels an acre. Would not use lime had not the hill been too steep to lead gravel up: he had nineteen lime-kilns burning at once. Upon this liming ploughed for oats; the crop tolerably good. A second crop of oats, which were very fine, and then let it run to grafs; let it at 15s. an acre. Observed that the burning brought up a great quantity of rushes, which had not appeared before.

E X P E R I M E N T, No. 4.

ANOTHER considerable piece, where turf had been cut, was manured, part with lime-stone sand, and part with mortar rubbish, and another with *graulagh*, or coralline shelly sand; the expence each about 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre. Ploughed it and burnt it, and sowed it with turneps: a very noble crop. Drew the turneps, and fed them in a pasture. The spring following planted it with potatoes without any other manure, and the crop much the greatest he ever saw in his life; from one stalk had 143 potatoes, then took three crops of oats, which all proved exceedingly good. The black Frizeland oat, and the second crop, yielded 26 barrels an acre, each 14 stone. Sowed dutch clover with the last crop, and could let it at 20s. an acre.

E X P E R I M E N T, No. 5.

ANOTHER piece of heath mountain, not entirely dry, worth 1s. an acre, manured very richly with lime-stone sand, and at the expence of 30s. an acre, and left so without any other improvement. In three years it was worth 5s. in eight years 10s. an acre, and in twelve years 1l. 1s. and so has remained.

EXPERIMENT, No. 6.

ANOTHER piece, worth five shillings an acre, was sanded at 1l. 2s. 9d. which was left three years on it, and then planted with potatoes, by the country people, who paid 3l. 10s. an acre. After which it was sown thrice with oats, the crops very good, left for meadow, and let it at 30s. an acre.

EXPERIMENT, No. 7.

SANDED another piece, at 1l. 5s. left it three years, and ploughed it up in dry weather, in may; left it till after wheat sowing, and then cross-ploughed it, and in the spring harrowed it with great ox harrows, and planted it with potatoes; after which two crops of oats, great crops, and then left it for grass. Worth immediately 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre.

A curragh of one hundred acres, that is a wet quaking bog, which will not do for turf, with a long sedgy grass on it. Part of a farm at 30l. a year, Lord Altamont took into his hands, with the consent of the tenant; he drained it to the amount of 30l. at 7d. a perch, five feet deep, and ten feet wide; this simple thing improved it so much, that without any other improvement, he set it to the same tenant, at 70l. a year. Made perfectly sound, so that bullocks of 8 cwt. could graze on it.

UPON the whole, Lord Altamont is of opinion, from a variety of experience, that the best method of breaking up heathy mountain land, is by manuring with lime-stone sand, to the thickness of an inch, which at present costs 1l. 11s. 6d. per acre. If sand is not to be had, then the white marle from under moory bottoms; and if there is none of that, then lime. Objects to lime, as it brings the land infallibly to moss, which is so powerful as to choak the grasses, but marle is an excellent manure. To leave it for three years, or till daisies (*bellis*) and white clover (*trifolium repens*) appear, then to plough it in may or june, and again in autumn; and in the spring to plant potatoes, in the common trenching way, and after the potatoes, would sow oats successively, till the chickweed (*alsine media*) appears, which is a sign that the tillage has so enriched the land, that the crops will be too great, and then leave it for grass. This is what he has on experience found to be the best way. If sea weed is plentiful, he would manure the potatoes with it, and then would have the first crop barley instead of oats. A large portion of these mountains are wet, owing to the lack clay, but the potatoe trenches break it, and let off the water; after which the land settles by degrees, and becomes perfectly dry. There are great tracts of many miles extent of heath mountain in this neighbourhood which are capable of the above improvements.

To

To shew what the advantage would be of doing it on a perfect and extensive scale, I shall calculate a square mile of six hundred and forty acres inclosed in sixty-four divisions, ten acres each, and the walls would amount to 5760 perches, two miles of road, at 50l. - 100 0 0

Lord Altamont has found that his walls of six feet high, two feet and a half wide at bottom, and sixteen inches at top, built dry, cost him on an average, 5s. a perch running-measure, of 21 feet, including all expences, 5760 at that rate, - - - - - 1442 10 0

Forty gates of Iron, at 50s. Piers, &c. &c. 5l. - - - - - 200 0 0

Of wood, they cost 2l. complete - - - - -

Ten-acre divisions would completely clear the land of stones,

Sanding at 1l. 11s. 6d. an acre - - - - - 984 0 0

2726 10 0

Left for three years interest of 1000l. to begin with for that time, at 6l. per cent. - - - - - 180 0 0

This is an unfair charge; Lord Altamont observed that the improved value would more than pay it.

Ten farm-houses, with offices, at 50l. each - - - - - 500 0 0

Total first improvement - - - - - £. 3406 10 0

The potatoes will pay their own expences, and 40s. an acre profit. The crops of oats, on an average, 40s. an acre profit, after paying all their own expences. Lord Altamont could have this price as rent, for liberty to sow them.

Profit by potatoes - - - - - 1280 0 0

Ditto on oats, three crops, at 40s. - - - - - 3840 0 0

5120 0 0

Deduct seven years interest at 6 per cent. on 3400l. - - - - - 1428 0 0

Neat profit 3692 10 0

Original expence - - - - - 3406 10 0

Profit - - - - - £. 285 10 0

Let, on an average, at 15s. an acre, which is what Lord Altamont is clear is the lowest price it can be reckoned at, it is per ann. - - - - - £. 480 0 0

An income of 480l. is created without expence. This for a landlord: if hired at 2s. an acre, the account will be the same, except the deduction of

of that for rent. I forgot to observe, that when the heath dies, which it does in three years, then daisies appear, and white clover, which are signs that the land is fit for culture. There is something very extraordinary in this circumstance, that laying on a powerful manure for cultivated vegetables, should prove poison to the spontaneous growth. It is only to be accounted for by supposing that the heath is nourished by an acid in the soil, which being neutralized by the alkali, is no longer the food of that plant, after which it dies for want of its usual support. It is very remarkable, that all the wild mountains in this country have marks, and to a great height of former culture, mounds of fences, and the ridges of the plough. Lord Altamont's great grandfather found the estate a continued forest; in 1650, those woods were of much more than a century growth, so that no cultivation could have been here probably of 300 years. There is a tradition in the country that it was depopulated by the plague, and upon that the wood sprung up which formed those forests. At present, there is no wood on any of the hills, except immediately about Westport.

I observed, besides this great range of mountain improvement, that Lord Altamont prosecutes various parts of husbandry with much spirit. He has been at great expences in introducing the best breed of english cattle. I had no slight pleasure in seeing great composts formed of dung and earth, and sea ore, well mixed together, and then carried into his meadows. Stands were also building for corn stacks, and under them standings for cows or oxen, and vaults for potatoes: they are executed in the most perfect manner. A sort of oat he has introduced into cultivation, a few grains of which he got by accident, cultivated them carefully in drills, and has got a large quantity now. They are of so great a body that he calls them patagonian oats. He favoured me with a few for seed. In introducing the linen manufacture, his Lordship has made great exertions. He found it to consist principally in spinning flax, which was sent out of the country, without any looms in it, except a very few, which worked only for their own use. In order to establish it, he built good houses in the town of Westport, and let them upon very reasonable terms to weavers, gave them looms, and lent them money to buy yarn, and in order to secure them from manufacturing goods, which they should not be able readily to sell, he constantly bought all they could not sell, which for some years was all they made; but by degrees, as the manufacture arose, buyers came in, so that he has for some time not bought any great quantity. The first year, 1772, he bought as much as cost him 200l. the next year, 1773, 700l. the next, 1774, as much as 2000l. and in 1775, above 4000l. worth: and this year, 1776, the number of buyers having much increased, he will not lay out any more than 4000l. the same as last year. This year he has also given such encouragement as to induce a person to build and establish a bleach green and mill.

The

The progress of this manufacture has been prodigious, for at first Lord Altamont was the only buyer, whereas for two years past there has not been less than 10,000l. a year laid out at this market in linen; yet with all this increase, they do not yet weave a tenth part of the yarn that is spun in the neighbourhood. The linens made are all coarse, generally 8 to 1100, from 9d. to 1s. 1d. a yard. They are double webs of 42 yards and upwards, and 32 inches wide; and they earn 1s. a day by weaving it, on an average of workmen. It is of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ hank yarn, and the spinners earn two-pence halfpenny to three-pence halfpenny a day by spinning it. The price of it has been in 5 years gradually rising from four-pence to seven-pence a hank. All of it is spun of flax raised in the country.

THE poor in general live on potatoes and milk 9 months out of the 12, the other 3 months bread and milk. All of them have one or two cows; fish is exceedingly plentiful, particularly oysters for 1s. a cart load, and sand eels, yet they eat none; herrings, however, are an article in their food. In their domestic œconomy, they reckon that the men feed the family with their labour in the field, and the women pay the rent by spinning. The increase of population is very great. Lord Altamont is of opinion that the numbers have doubled on his estate in 20 years.

THE farms around Westport are in general large, from 400 acres to 4 or 5000, all which are stock farms; and the occupiers re-let the cultivated lands, with the cabins, at a very increased rent, to the oppression of the poor, who have a strong aversion to renting of these tierney begs. The soil in general is a cold spewy stoney clay and loam; the best lands in the country are the improved moors. Rents rise from 2s. for heath, to 16s. for good land. Average 8s. about three-fifths of the country unimproved mountains, bog and lake. Great tracts of mountain, but bogs not very extensive. Clara island 2,400 acres, at 300l. a year; Achill 24,000 acres, at 200l. a year; Bofin 100l. a year, and is above 1200 acres. It belongs to Lord Clanrickard. The course of this country, 1. Potatoes, manured with sea-weed: this is so strong that they depend entirely on it, and will not be at the trouble to carry out their own dunghills. On the shore, towards Joyce's country, they actually *let their dunghills accumulate, till they become such a nuisance, that they move their cabins in order to get from them.* A load of wrack is worth, at least, six loads of dung. They do not take half what is thrown in. On the shore, open to the Atlantic, there is a leather sort of Alga, which comes in in the spring. The kelp weed grows only where it is sheltered. The coast of Lord Altamont's domain and islands let for 100l. a year for making kelp.

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|--------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. Potatoes. | 2. Barley. | 3. Oats. | 4. Oats. |
| 1. Potatoes. | 2. Barley. | 3. Oats. | 4. Flax. |
| 1. Potatoes. | 2. Barley. | 3. Oats. | |

POTATOES they measure by the barrel of 12 cwt. and in each barrel 16 pecks of three quarters each. They plant 10 bushels, of 3 cwt. each, at the average price of 12s. a barrel, or 1s. per cwt.

Expence of an acre.

Manuring with sea weed	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Rent	-	-	-	-	-	0	8	0
County cess and parish charges	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	0
Seed	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Planting, 30 men a day	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Shovelling 10 ditto	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Weeding 3 ditto	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	6
Taking up, and carrying home, 60 men	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Sorting, &c. 3 men	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	6
						<hr/>		
						£. 5 13 0		

They will not carry sea weed above a mile; if dung is used, the expence will be

-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0
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P R O D U C E.

Twenty barrels, or twelve tons, at 12s.	-	-	-	12	0	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	5	13 0
						<hr/>
Profit	-	-	-	£. 6	7	0

A man, his wife, and four children, will eat a bushel of 3 cwt. every week: in 39 weeks, therefore, they eat 117 cwt. or 5 ton, 17 cwt. this is just half an acre for the family. Of oatmeal, the common allowance is a quart of oatmeal a day for a labourer. A mower that is fed is allowed that quantity, and 6 quarts of butter milk a day, or as much *bonny clobber*. To explain what this is I must observe, that they set the milk three days for the cream to rise, and having then skimmed it, the milk that remains is as thick as blamange, and as sour as vinegar, and this is *bonny clobber*.

Of barley they sow 6 pecks, each 21 quarts, and the crop is generally from 20 to 30 fold, or at 25 it is 150 pecks. Of oats they sow a barrel of 24 stone per acre, and they get 6 such barrels. Of flax they sow 40 gallons, and it will sell in common *on the foot* at 8l. they find that it enriches the land. No wheat sown but by gentlemen for their own consumption. *They burn their corn, instead of threshing it.* The grazing system is generally the succession, buying in at year olds, or if the lands are very bad, two year olds; keep them till four year olds, and then sell them lean at Ballinasloe. They give 10s. 6d. to 3 l. 10s. for yearlings; average

average 40s. For two-year olds, they give 3l. They sell for 6l. what they gave 2l. and for those they gave 3l. they will sell at four-year olds for 6l. They keep but few sheep, but generally buy year-old wethers; *boggerills* in may, at 8s. to 10s. each, shear them and turn to the mountains; bring them on to their arable lands in winter, shear them again the following year, and send them to the mountain again, and in the following summer shear again, putting them on their best pastures, and selling fat at Ballinasloe, at 15s. or 16s. their fleeces 5lb. at 1s. a pound. There are some dairies, as far as ten or twelve cows, which are employed for butter. Twenty years ago cows were lett for 1 cwt. of butter for the year, and rearing the calf. Very few swine kept, and of a bad kind. They plough all with horses, four in a plough, directed by a man, walking backwards, who to make them move forward, strikes the beasts in the face. Young colts they harrow with by the tail. Twelve horses are necessary for one hundred acres in tillage. They winnow their corn in the road, and let the wind blow away the chaff.

Lord Altamont mentioned descriptive of Mayo husbandry, acts of parliament to prevent their pulling the wool off their sheep by hand; burning their corn; ploughing by the tail; in hiring and stocking farms, the common computation is, three rents for a grazing one. Land sells at twenty-one and twenty-two years purchase, at rack rent. Rents have fallen within five years, 1s. in the pound; they are at present on a balance, with a tendency to rise. Tythes are compounded in the lump. Leases, three lives, or thirty-one years, also twenty-one years. Much land let to those who re-let. The rents in Mayo are trebled in forty years. No emigrations. Farms are generally let in partnership, but the term *Rundale* not known. Labour generally done by cottars, who have land let to them, or grafs for cows, under agreement to work for the landlord. Provisions, which the poor eat, not risen, but butchers meat doubled. They pluck their geese alive every year. All carriage done by horses with baskets: the bottoms of which fasten with sticks, and let out the load. The industry of the people very much increased; an astonishing change in industry, sobriety, &c. and are in much better circumstances in every respect, than twenty years ago. They have a practice common among them, which shews an increasing civility in the change from irish names to english ones. Even surnames, for instances *Stranaghan*, irish for *birds*, which they call themselves. *Markabau*, irish for a *rider*, which name they take; *Cullane*, irish for a *whelp*, which name they assume; others call themselves *Collins*. *Conree*, irish for a *king*, which they call themselves; *Ruddery*, a *knight*, and many others. Among Lord Altamont's labourers, is one Mowbray Seymour; his great grandfather was master-worker of the mint at London. There are many Mortimers, Piercys, &c. and within a few years, a Plantagenet, in the

county of Sligo. Eagles abound very much in this country, and do great mischief, by carrying away lambs, poultry, &c. they also watch the salmon jumping, and seize them even out of the water, by darting with that celerity, of which they are such masters; this is so common, that men with guns are set to kill and frighten them.

AUGUST 30th, rode to Roshill, four miles off, a headland that projects into the bay of Newport, from which there is a most beautiful view of the bay on both sides; I counted thirty islands very distinctly, all of them cultivated under corn and potatoes, or pastured by cattle. At a distance, Clara rises in a very bold and picturesque stile; on the left, Crow Patrick, and to the right, other mountains. It is a view that wants nothing but wood.

AUGUST 31st, to Newbrook, over a various country, part waste, and much cultivated. About Castle-Burk, the road crossed a most remarkable stoney natural pavement, regularly surrounded with grass trenches, all on a flat. Passed the ruins of a very fine abbey; reached Holymount, Mr. Lindsay's, a very considerable grazier; about which place, the soil is in general, a stoney clay, from six inches to two feet deep, on lime-stone gravel; it is quite dry sound land, and the stones are lime-stone. Lets from 12s. to 15s. an acre. Farms are very extensive, up to three or four thousand acres, all stock ones, with portions re-let to cottars, who are the principal arable men here. They are in the succession way, buying in year-olds at 40s. keep them till three or four-year olds, sometimes only keep them two years, they pay about 20s. per annum, on a medium. They are sold, at whatever age, for stores to the graziers in the rich countries. Another system is, to buy in cows in May, at 2l. 12s. 6d. to 3l. and make about 1l. 10s. profit. A cow will take an acre, but there will be an after-grass, worth 5s. an acre, for sheep. The sheep system is breeding and selling three-year old wethers fat, the wool, and the culled ewes. Above half the county bog, mountain, and lake. Folding sheep, I suppose, will come in here, for they have got very near it. They drive their sheep to a spot of grass, which they let for grass potatoes, at 3l. 10s. to 5l. an acre, doing this at night, till the land is well dunged. The crops are eight tons on an average:

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere, if sanded, 8 to 10 barrels. 3. Bere. 4. Oats, 8 to 10 barrels. 5. Oats, 8 barrels. 6. Oats, 8 barrels. 7. Flax. 8. Wheat, 6. Sand for the bere, if for potatoes the sand does hurt, unless it lies two or three years on the grass. 3 cwt. the barrel of bere, the same, which is surprising. 4 cwt. of wheat.

SEPTEMBER 1st. to Tuam; dined with the Archbishop. All this country is a good sound lime stone land, and famous for sheep; but upon enquiry, I found it did not materially vary from the neighbourhood of Holymount, or Moniva, whither I was going in the evening. Reached Mr.

Mr. French's, at that place, to whose very obliging attention I am indebted for the following interesting particulars: he has improved 60 acres of bog, and 290 of moor, which he began in the year 1744, with a great red bog, from 20 to 30 feet deep, so wet and spongy, that no turf, fit for burning, could be found to cut in it, so very wet and loose, that a man could not go on it without jumping from tuft to tuft; no heath on it, except at the verge; the only spontaneous growth red and white moss.

THE following account of this great improvement, Mr. French sent to the Dublin Society. It was never published. I insert it therefore with the utmost satisfaction.

B O G R E C L A I M E D.

Copy of a letter to the Dublin Society, for which they granted him a gold medal.

DEAR SIR,

Moniva, Jan. 24th, 1769.

ALTHOUGH I have not hitherto applied for a medal or premium, yet for above twenty years past, during which time the works I describe have been carrying on, I have observed the useful hints of the Dublin Society, tried many experiments recommended by them, and have followed their instructions, which have turned to my pleasure, profit, and advantage. I observe, that it is necessary to lay before the Society the quality of the bog, and the method pursued in reducing it, but fear their patience may be tried upon the present occasion.

THE castle of Moniva, now part of my dwelling-house, is very ancient, and was built for a place of defence; it stands upon a dry gravelly soil, which, like a peninsula of five acres, run between two very high, red, deep, wet bogs, impassable for any beast of burden, very difficult even for men to pass. The bog, on the north side, contained above 13 acres; the other, on the south, is of a great extent. The east side of the castle was defended by a deep winding river, a few perch beyond which was a large extent of extreme wet red impassable bog, so high as to prevent, from the lower rooms of my house, a view of the country beyond it, and of a great part of an high island of land of about 15 acres, which lay towards the middle of the bog. A large old wood, which stands on 111 acres, in a semicircular form, partly round a lawn of 70 acres, upon a gentle rising dry ground, defended the west of the castle. The river, on every heavy rain, overflowed to the verges of the bogs, and very near to the castle. That I may not assume too much of the following improvements to myself, I must let you know, that my father formed a scheme to turn the course of the river through the great east bog, which was from 26 to 28 feet above its level, and made a considerable drain through the bog for the purpose. He also made a deep mearing drain, near a

mile in length from the river, through the large south bog, and divided about 90 acres thereof, by cross wide and deep drains, into 5 divisions, and by two drains through the north bog, laid out an approach, 7 perch wide, to his house, but his life proved too short to execute his extensive scheme.

UPON his decease, in the year 1744, I first pursued his plan to turn the course of the river, widened the drain made by him to 27 and 30 feet, according to the height of the bog, and sunk the drain to the gravel, where I could do so, and in some parts two and three feet deep into the gravel, which proved excessive hard. In other parts of the drain, the bottom of the bog was much lower than the level of the river, in which parts, as the water could not be drained off, there was no digging to the gravel. The sides of the drain were so high, that I was obliged to cut them in some parts into benches, in the form of stairs, to prevent the men at the bottom from being overwhelmed, which would once have happened, only that a man standing on the surface, observing the bog to burst, gave the alarm, by which he saved the lives of several men; for in a few moments many perches in length of the drain were filled up to the top, more difficult to be again shovelled out, than if it had not been cut before; it required sometimes four or five men standing upon different benches, to convey what the lowest shovel took up to the top, besides the necessity of removing the stuff from the edge of the drain, to prevent the frequent burstings in of the bog. The greatest difficulty was to draw up prodigious large roots of fir trees, which lay firmly fixed and very sound, just over the gravel, at the bottom of the bog all along the drain. This I effected, by laying two large beams from the top, so as to form an inclined plain to the bottom; then drove down into the bog above, a strong beam perpendicular, and made it firm by stones; to this, I fixed a great pulley, and another pulley to the root below, first separating it by hatches and iron crows from its large arms, which run under the bog: then by running a cable through the pulleys, the united strength of 16 or 20 men drew up the largest roots along the sliding plain. The men, as they drew up the roots, usually stood upon the firm gravel at the bottom of the drain, the top being in many places too soft for footing.

HAVING compleated the drain or water-course, which is above ninety perches in length, through the great east bog, I set about making a strong bank, from the east to the south bog, 20 perches in length, and from 15 to 50 feet broad across the old river, which was 16 feet deep. For this purpose I drove down a row of long wooden piles, and a second row across the river, and made the bank by filling up the intermediate space with fods well rammed and pressed down.

I had the satisfaction to observe, when I had made a second bank, at the lower or north end of the new drain, to prevent the water from returning back into the channel of the old river, but at much less expence
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than the former cost, that the river run its new channel, that I immediately gained about 10 acres of fine bottoms for meadows upon each side of the old river, and as the new river was three or four feet higher than the old, I obtained a fall for a mill, which I observed might be increased, by running a deep drain through the north bog for a tail race, which would also contribute to reclaim that bog : this I perfected, run it 11 feet wide down to the gravel, 94 perch in length, and in some parts into the gravel, to preserve the level. I built a bleach mill, the first built in the province where the fall lay, and the bog since reclaimed about it, is part of the green for bleaching linen.

FROM my new river, to a lake which lay about 230 perch to the east in the great bog, I cut a large drain of that length, to supply my mill with water from the lake, when the river should prove low in summer. This work was thought to be impracticable, the bog between being many feet higher than either the lake or the river, but I know that the lake was higher than the river ; indeed, for the first and second year, it proved impracticable, the drain, though laid out above ten feet wide, still filling up as it was made : but by perseverance, and still opening the drain at the end where the fall lay, at length the lake, to the surprise of many, run into the river, and gave me a new command of water. The whole bog, in ten years time, sunk amazingly, and disclosed to me, from the windows of my house, the prospect of a country which could not be seen from them before ; but works of this kind require patience and perseverance : for at the end of three years, when curiosity led me to see the effects of a great flood after a very heavy fall of rain, I had the mortification to see the great bank, which I made across the river, float away, like a boat before me. The neighbours, who for years past had insisted that my father and I had undertaken an impracticable work, applauded their own judgment upon the occasion, and endeavoured to dissuade me from any further pursuit ; but instead of following their advice, I immediately provided a boat, (for horses and cars could not, without great difficulty, be brought to the place) and with its assistance conveyed stones sufficient to fill up the channel of the old river, the breadth of the bank, and afterwards, by bog stuff brought by boat, and sunk in the front of the bank, I made it staunch ; then raised it by sod work, and planted trees on the top of it, by which means it has remained firm, and answered my whole design for these nineteen years past. When I erected my mill, and made sluices to keep up the water for it, I observed that my new river thereby became navigable for a boat, as well as the old river, and that it might prove very advantageous for the conveyance of manures, if a communication was made from one to the other ; but this was difficult, as the new river, in time of flood, was four or five feet higher in its level than the old river, yet I overcame the difficulty, by cutting a navigable line 16 perch in length, where was firm gravel at the bottom, from river

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to river, and built a water lock at the edge of the new river, where I found a firm foundation at the bottom of the bog. It answered my purpose, gave me a great command of water; for by opening the sluices of the lock, I can at any time overflow my meadows, which lie on each side of the old river: it has stood now for about 18 years. When I observed the advantages which arose from being able to convey manures by boat, I proceeded, and cut a navigable line 30 perch long, 20 feet wide from the new river, above the great bank into the south great bog, and cut another navigable line 32 perch long, 12 feet wide, from the old river northward into the north bog, and another navigable line through the same bog westward, in a winding direction, for the sake of beauty, 50 perch long, and 20 feet wide; and cut another line 21 perch long, and 14 feet wide southward, from the western line, which brings my boat into my farm-yard, and enables it to proceed through all the navigable lines which communicate with each other. Several springs of water rose from the uplands, which lie west of the north bog, and probably were the cause of that bog in the before-mentioned navigable line, which run towards these springs. I built a second water-lock, and turned an arch over it, as it stands in one of the approaches to my house; by shutting the gates of this lock, the springs which run into the river, being intercepted, a sheet of water overspreads near two acres in my lawn, which lies between the wood and my house, and the boats are thereby enabled to go to the highlands, where there is plenty of gravel to manure the bogs. I made my navigable lines by banking out the water, and keeping the drains empty by screw pumps of about 13 feet long, which were worked by two men relieving each other day and night, which my own carpenter made, and also built my locks before he had seen any thing of the kind, until he admired his own works. Whilst I was executing the works which I have described, I proceeded to reclaim the bogs adjacent to them. The lines I have mentioned divided the north bog into 4 parts, which I inclosed by smaller drains into so many little parks; it is entirely reclaimed, and has been for several years past under tillage and meadow, and yet, now, though it has subsided considerably, an iron borer of 18 feet, does not in several parts thereof reach the bottom of the bog: it was full of holes, out of which turf for fuel had been formerly cut, the levelling of which added much to the expence of reclaiming. The east bog, from the island to the old river, is all reclaimed, except two or three acres towards the south, and has likewise been under tillage and meadow for some years past. I reclaimed these two bogs, by covering the surface with lime-stone gravel, then laid a coat of dung over it, and planted potatoes upon the dung; the next year sowed oats, or rye and grass seeds, and the following year mowed the produce: the bog was so wet, that I cut several small drains, which I since filled up, when they had performed their office. To lay the gravel on, I was obliged to make
roads

roads with hurdles, to bear up small horses, which carried the gravel in baskets upon their backs, and to remove the hurdles from place to place, as occasion required; the boats laid the gravel and manures upon the sides of the rivers and the drains, from whence the horses conveyed them. The subsiding of this bog is remarkable; if I should say from fifteen to twenty feet, I think that I should not exceed: when I first cut the new river, the bog rose in a hill between it and the old river; there is now a fall the whole way, except where the hill stood, which is the lowest part. The bog is now so firm as to bear a loaded cart. I sloped the sides of the hollows, where for some years I had cut turfs; being advised to cut the bog away, but that would be the work of ages; and where the surface was cut off proved most barren, and required most manure: these hollows are now little green vales; and posterity will puzzle, as some do at present, to find the cause of them. After the first crops were taken off, and mowed for two or three years, I observed little tufts of heath began to appear in the meadows; where these appeared, some parts I tilled again; put dung upon others; but lime effectually banished them; and so did a mixture of kelp and ashes, the refuse of the bleach-green, which proved the richest manure. I spread river-mud upon one or two acres, which had little effect, only produced a sedgey spirey grass, until dung was laid over it; marle had somewhat a better effect than the river-mud, but marle, mixed with dung, proved very good; lime, dung, or kelp, broke fine into powder, proved the best. I reclaimed above one acre, by gravelling, and laying a coat of fresh lime over the gravel, and planted potatoes upon the lime, without any dung; the potatoes were small, and lay thin when dug out, but the corn, which succeeded them, proved very good, and the bog was thereby well-reclaimed. It should be observed, that all the stone and gravel of this country is lime-stone. I tried to reclaim part by burning, but the red bogs, which mine were, proved too wet and spongy; the ashes were white, and so light that they had little effect. In the manner I have described, I reclaimed about five acres of the south bog, which lay within the navigable line; but not being able to pursue my navigation into this bog, the gravel at the bottom of the bog rising above the level of my upper river, without considerable expence, and the addition of another water lock, I made a firm gravel road into the bog, first dividing one of the large divisions, made by my father, by two cross drains ten feet wide, into four divisions, which made the bog pretty dry; I then laid dung, two or three inches thick, upon the surface of the bog, without any gravel or other manures under: I observe, that the crops of potatoes, corn, and meadow following, were full as good as those where the gravel was first laid on, which in wet bogs sink too suddenly; I would therefore advise, and intend to pursue, the laying on of gravel after the bog has been mowed for two or three years: the expence of gravelling an acre at the first, is, at the least, from four to six pounds;

pounds ; and as you proceed further into the bog, the expence must increase ; therefore where dung is to be had in plenty, it is the best material for reclaiming a bog ; but I think that composts made with lime and earth mixed, or lime and moor, may answer the end of dung, which I have not yet sufficiently tried, but intend so to do.

To enumerate several other drains which I made in the east and south bogs, to prepare them for reclaiming, would prove too tedious. I usually cut them ten feet wide ; but it is difficult in a wet bog to ascertain the depth of a drain until the bog has subsided for years. In making the drain, which I have mentioned from the lake to the river, 30 or 40 men working in the same part of the drain for four or five days without intermission, except at night, could not bring the drain, in the evenings, to be deeper than from one to two feet deep, and both the overseer and men were all so out of patience, that they were with difficulty persuaded to continue the work ; but as I rode round the bog, I observed that the bog was subsiding, and that they were gaining the level, though they did not perceive it ; for the flush flung by the shovels out of the drain pressed down the bog and squeezed out the water into the drain which ran off, as I begun where the fall lay ; the bog was so soft that the men were obliged to stand upon boards as they worked, to prevent them from sinking : the bogs which I first reclaimed are still subsiding. I had, the last summer, 32 acres of the bogs, which I have described all under tillage and meadow ; I also mowed ten acres of the bottoms on the river sides, between the reclaimed bogs ; and other ten acres of bottoms by the same river, made meadow by banks cast up round them, to guard against floods, planted with alder and fallows : I have six acres more of the east bog reclaimed by a coat of gravel only, never tilled, but reserved for pasture ; but they are far inferior to the tilled bogs, and will not be meadow until covered with other manure, and tilled. I cannot ascertain the depth of several parts of my reclaimed bogs, as my borer of 18 feet long does not reach the bottom of the north and east bogs ; the south bog is all 12 and 13 feet deep : but towards the verge they are shallower. The navigable lines which I have described, encompass 31 acres, except on part of the west side, where my house stands ; these I call my garden or small farm, through which the old river winds ; clumps of spruce fir, beech and alder, grow well on the sides of the new river, where gravel was thrown on the banks from the bottom when it was first made ; the broad-leaved elm interspersed through the meadows reclaimed from the bog, also thrive ; I have two small groves on each side of the water lock, of a spontaneous growth, from the deep reclaimed bog, consisting of quicken or mountain ash, birch, holly, and fallow, some of which are from 17 to above 20 feet high. In making my navigable line, which runs west to the edge of my lawn, I discovered by my borer that a bed of white marle, at the depth of 16 feet, lay under the north bog ; the bed
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of marle proved to be five feet thick, under which lay a stratum of gravel, from six to nine inches thick, under which stratum of gravel lay another bed of marle, four feet thick. In the last dry summer, by the aid of my crew-pumps, I raised a great quantity of this marle, which leads me to claim a medal for reclaiming dry heathy mountain, upon which, after ploughing, I spread the marle. But I fear that I have tired you, as I have myself, and shall, for the present, only present my respects to the Society, and assure you that I am,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

ROBERT FRENCH.

It may be objected that the works were begun previous to the publication of the premiums; I doubt whether it be possible to reclaim such bogs in less than eight or ten years; the water must have time to ouze from sponges, which such bogs are: to reclaim them very expeditiously would exceed the expence of a private fortune.

To the Rev. Peter Chaigneau, assistant
secretary to the Dublin Society.

MR. French remarks, that the expence of improving bogs, equally spongy and wet, with this, is very considerable, for the drains will for some time fill up almost as fast as made. When the draining is finished, the main drains should be left five feet deep, and the breadth just sufficient to keep the banks up: cross drains, of a smaller dimension, must be made, which, when the bog is perfectly drained, may be filled up again. As to the expence, he observes, that it must necessarily vary greatly: but the very worst sort may be completely done for 6l. an acre. Manuring with gravel, lime, or clay, may in general be estimated at 6l. Then Mr. French would by all means plant potatoes, in the trenching manner, for the sake of mixing the manure, which is laid on with the surface of the bog, and also for the use of the trenches, as surface drains. The crop of potatoes, if a moderate quantity of dung is spread for them, will be equal to any in the country, that is, worth 10l. an acre; but if no dung, they will not more than pay the expence of seed, planting, and taking up. In the spring after, dig it slightly, level the trenches, and sow oats; the digging will not cost more than 10s. an acre. The crop of oats will be 12 barrels, or rye, will be a great produce. With this corn, the grass seeds should be sown; rye grass (*lolium perenne*) and white grass (*holcus lanatus*) do well; common hay seeds good. The first year a car must not go on, but the hay brought off by men. The second year it will bear cars, and would then let for 10s. an acre, for three years only; 21s. an acre for hay. After that, a fresh manuring, with a compost of lime and earth, or lime and gravel, and then would let at 15s. If

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the land for potatoes is well dunged, the poor will pay 4l. an acre for it; and the hay, instead of 21s. will let at 3l.

IN relation to his mountain-moor improvement, the state of the soil before improving was that of continued heath, (*erica vulgaris*) with great quantities of lime stones on the surface. Mr. French, in the first place, ploughed it with six bullocks, which did not do more than one-fourth of an acre a day, as the roots of the heath made it strong work. As they turned up the stones, or were impeded by them, they were drawn away in cars to make the walls. Left it after the ploughing from half a year to a year, and then broke it, cross-ploughed, and harrowed it; in all four ploughings; after the last, harrowed it smooth, and limed. Began with sixty barrels an acre, but increased it to one hundred, and to two hundred, and found the crops better and better, in proportion to the quantity. Upon the liming sowed the wheat, and harrowed it in. The crop has been generally from five to seven barrels an acre. The following year either barley or oats: of barley, the crops have been middling, about eight barrels. If oats, twelve barrels. After either the barley or oats, another crop of oats, equally good, and with that sowed hay seeds, or rye grass and clover. Before the improvement it let at 4s. 9d. twenty-five years ago, and if the same heath was to be set out now, it would be worth eight shillings. After the oats abovementioned, has set it readily at 14s. Dividing the lands into divisions of from fifteen to twenty-acred pieces, clears them of stones, and the expence of the walls, is

	s.	d.
Drawing the stones - - - - -	2	6 per perch.
Building dry - - - - -	1	1
	<hr/>	
	3	7
If coped and dashed, the additional expence will be	2	6
	<hr/>	
	6	1
	<hr/>	

They are all lime stone lands, and make very fine sheep-walks. Before the improvement very many sheep died on these grounds, of the red-water, but since the liming this has not happened; nor would it before give flax, but now very fine.

MR. French burns the lime in perpetual kilns with turf, laying in the turf and stone in layers, the same as culm, and all expences included, amount to 4d. a barrel roach, of 32 gallons. Two cubical yards of turf will burn one cubical yard of stone. If the turf is very good, one and an half will do. He tried French kilns, in which he burned 1500 and 2000 barrels, but found it very uncertain, frequently having the stone come out unburnt. A kiln of 1500 barrels, comes to 25l. but often it ran to 40l. he has upon the whole, found it far better to

to use the other sort, which are cheaper, and more certain. Another sort of mountain land, is the wet, boggy sort, one to four feet deep, which he improved by digging off almost all the bog for lime; then ploughed it with six bullocks, and let it to the poor from a guinea to thirty shillings an acre, for them to burn, harrow, and plant potatoes; after which they pay as much more for a crop of oats. Then limes it, takes another crop of oats, and sows grasses with it; after this improvement, lets as well as the other. White marle, from under a bog, Mr. French tried, for improving fourteen acres of dry mountain land; the effect was much the same as that of lime, but more expensive, from the difficulty of getting it. In the year 1744, when Mr. French came to his estate, there was no other linen manufacture than a little *bundle* linen, merely for their own consumption, with no other spinning than for that, and even for this, there was not more than one loom in 100 cabins. In 1746, he undertook to establish a better fabric, and with more extensive views. He first began by erecting spinning schools, and sowing flax, twenty-one acres of which he sowed on his own account. The linen board gave at that time one penny a day to all children that went to any spinning schools, which was of use; but the providing flax Mr. French found of the greatest use. In 1749, he established eight weavers and their families, and the same year built a bleach mill, and formed a green, and to carry it on to advantage, sent a lad into the north, and bound him apprentice there, in order to learn the whole business. Upon his return, he managed the manufactory for Mr. French, buying the yarn, paying weavers for weaving it by the yard, bleaching and selling it. In this manner it went on for fifteen years; but as in this state it was dependent on Mr. French's life, he enabled this manager to take the whole upon his own account, binding him to keep every weaver on the estate employed, whatever might be the number. The progress of this undertaking, united with the agricultural improvements, will be seen by the following returns of the Moniva estate, at different periods.

In 1744. There were three farmers, and six or eight shepherds and cow-herds.

In 1771. There were two hundred and forty-eight houses, ninety looms, and two hundred sixty-eight wheels.

In 1772. Two hundred and fifty-seven houses, ninety-three looms, and two hundred eighty-eight wheels.

In 1776. Two hundred seventy-six houses, ninety-six looms, and three hundred and seventy wheels.

Here, in a few words, is the progress of a most noble undertaking; and I should observe, that it is doubly beneficial from one circumstance. All these weavers are mere cottagers in a town without any

land, except a cabbage-garden, by which means they have nothing to do with farming, but become a market to the farmers that surround them, which is what all manufacturers ought to be, instead of spreading over the country, to the destruction of agriculture. Another circumstance in which Mr. French has given a new face to Moniva, and its environs, is by planting; he found a considerable wood of birch, which being a shabby tree, and not improving, he cut them gradually down, and planted oak, elm, and beech, with various other sorts; he began this thirty years ago, and no year passes without his making some new plantation. By properly managing this wood of 111 acres, he has made it pay him 150*l.* a year, ever since, and there is now more than thrice the value of timber in it, to what there was when he began. Whatever he has planted has answered well, but the growth of the beech is the greatest. That of the oak is very great, and more flourishing than ever Mr. French expected to see them at the time of planting. The broad-leaved elm thrives very well upon the bogs, after they are cultivated. Mr. French has tried most sorts of trees in rows along the hedges, but none of them have succeeded, the west winds cut them in pieces; since which he makes inclosures, and plants them thick.

I ought not to forget observing that Mr. French supports a charter-school at his own expence, wherein are from twenty to forty children, constantly supported, cloathed, and taught to read and write, and to spin and weave.

FARMS around Moniva consist, principally, of large stock ones, from 200 to 500 acres, with very few cabins upon them; the tillage of the country is principally carried on by villagers, who take farms in partnership. Mr. French's are generally from 20 to 130 acres. There will sometimes be from ten to thirty families on a farm of 200 acres; but Mr. French finds that they do not thrive well if there are more than six families to one farm. The soil to the west of Moniva, is a lime-stone gravel, mixed with a clay, some of it upon clay: to the east it is a deeper and richer clay, and lime-stone all the way to the Shannon. The whole county lime-stone, except the mountainous tracts on the west, beyond Loch Carril, and the mountains to the south of Loch Rea. Rents in this neighbourhood rise generally from 12*s.* to 16*s.* except old leases, which are 6*s.* or 7*s.* The richest part of the county is between Lochrea and Portumne, thence to Eyre-court, Clonfert, and Aghrim. The third of the county is bog, lake, and unimproved mountain; but most of the latter yields some trifling rent, the whole third, perhaps three-pence an acre; the other two-thirds, 12*s.* at an average. The isles of Arran contain 7000 acres, belong to John Digby, Esq; and let at about 2000*l.* a year. The great tract of mountain is the three Baronies of Eyre Connaught, Ross, Bally-

Ballynahinch and Moycullen; they are forty miles long, and fifteen broad, and are in general uncultivated. The principal proprietors are, Robert Martin, Esq; Thomas French, of Moycullen, Esq; and Patrick Blake, Esq; of Drum; — Lynch, of Barna; — Geohagen, Esq; of Bowown; — Lynch, Esq; Drumrong; Sir John O'Flaharty, &c. Mr. Martin has the largest tract; he has let to Mr. Popham, 14,000 irish acres, for three lives, at no rent at all; then three lives more at 150 l a year; and after them for sixty-one years, at the same rent; and Mr. Popham has some men at work upon improving, from England and Leinster. There is lime-stone gravel upon a part of the land, but not generally in Eyre Connaught, any more than lime-stone; at least according to common report.

Courses of Crops about Moniva.

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.

THERE are some good tillage farmers towards the Shannon, who sow grass seeds. They also sow successive crops till the land is exhausted, and leave it for some time to graze itself. No ploughing or harrowing by the tail, nor any burning the corn instead of threshing, but these practices were very common 30 years ago. The measure of potatoes is the barrel of 42 stone; five plant an acre, the average price 6s. or 8s. at the beginning of the season; to 10s. or 12s. at the latter end. The average produce 25 barrels, or 10l. Oats yield about 8 barrels. Of flax, a hoghead sows 2 acres. It is but lately that they have saved their seed, but it is now coming in; a good common crop is 4 cwt. of scutched flax, and the medium price 40s. a cwt. There are considerable improvements of mountain, and some of bog, that have been carried on by the poor villagers. They dig and burn the mountain, and get by that means very fine potatoes without dung, paying 20s. an acre for it. If they have the land to themselves, they will, after the potatoes, get good wheat, and after that, several crops of oats, till the land is exhausted. These village farmers, I remarked, as I went through the country, were industrious in forming composts of boggy moor, turf, and lime-stone, with what dung they can raise. They were now making ready against the winter's dung; these are for potatoes the following spring, and they find it answers so well that the practice increased very fast. Such of them as are near the bogs, Mr. French gives the bog to them for 10 years rent free, and then they pay him 10s. an acre for it. They drain them, manure with lime-stone gravel and a little dung, and plant potatoes, getting fine crops and good corn afterwards. In one of the bogs which a village was cutting away, the men called Mr. French to it, to shew him the old ridge and furrow at the bottom, and he found them perfect. It was 4 feet deep: that this country was once generally cultivated, there are other signs. There are vast numbers of lime-stone gravel pits among the mountain heathy lands, though there is not the least tradition when they were used.

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THE principal stock in this country is sheep for breeding, the sale being wethers, which they sell fat at Ballinasloe; and wool, of which they clip from the ewes 4 lb. and from the wethers 5 lb. sells now at above 1 s. a lb. Mr. French remembers the price of wool, 50 years ago, at 6s. and 7s. a stone; 1744 was reckoned a very high year, and he sold 27 bags, at 10s. 6d. a stone: but as he got out of stock, he has not since had more than two bags. In 1745, &c. it fell to 8s. a stone. The great rise of the price of wool, Mr. French attributes to the low price of spinning and the increase of tillage. The stock farmers, who are good managers, all have two farms, one as a dry one, in this neighbourhood for winter, and another in the deeper richer lands in the eastern part of the county, for summer feeding and fattening. Three year old wethers, from the light soils here, sell at from 15s. to 25s. each. It is reckoned good land here that will support three sheep per acre the whole year round. The system of grazing is to buy yearlings, at from 35s. to 3l. 3s. and sell out at four year old, at from 4l. 4s. to 6l. 6s. They sometimes sell them at three year old.

THEY plough with horses, but the gentlemen mostly with oxen; they have not the Mayo custom, of walking backwards before them, nor do they harness them all abreast, but two and two. They winnow all their corn in the field to blow away the chaff. They will take a grazing farm, with three years rent, for stock. Land sells at 21 years purchase. The rents have fallen since 1772, but are now rising from the great price of wool, black cattle, and linen. Tythes are compounded by the proctors with gentlemen, but they screw up the poor people to the utmost. There are still many men who make it their business to hire large tracts of land in order to re-let at advanced rents. Population increases greatly, yet many of them live very poorly upon potatoes and water, with some oatmeal. There are many that have no cows, only a house and a garden. The grass of a cow is 30s. This is not the case, however, at Moniva; there they have all cows, and are very rarely without milk. Rent of a cabin and an acre, 20s. building the cabin for themselves; and 30s. if it is built for them. There were many emigrants from Galway to America, but only of the loose idle people. The general religion is roman catholic, but about Moniva chiefly protestant.

MR. Andrew French, of Rathone Galway, who I met at Moniva, favoured me with the following particulars. At Galway there is a salmon fishery, which lets at 200l. a year; and in the bay of Galway they have a considerable herring fishery. There are belonging to the town 200 to 250 boats, 40 or 50 of which are employed in the spring fishery, for cod, hake, mackarel, &c. &c. These boats are from 4 to 6 tons, some 9 tons. They cost building, 20l. a boat, and the nets and tackle, 15l. the nets are of hemp, tanned with bark. There are five or six men to a boat; they fish by shares, dividing into sixty: they have had this fishery time immemorial. The plenty of fish has decreased these 15 years. A mid-
dling

dling night's take is 5000 fish; all they get is sold into the country, and the demand is so far from being answered, that many cargoes are brought in from the north. The fish sell at 1s. 4d. to 2s. 2d. a hundred; but the men are far from being industrious in the business: some weeks they do not go out twice.

ON the coast of Conna Marra there is, from the 10th of april to the 10th of may, a fishery of sun-fish, which is done by the her-ring boats. It is not by shares, but the owners of the boats hire the men for the fishery. One fish is reckoned worth 5l. and if a boat takes three fish in the month, it is reckoned good luck. There are 40 or 50 boats employed on this. Along the whole bay there is a great quantity of kelp burnt; 3000 tons are annually exported from Galway: the present price is 40s. to 50s. a ton. The shore is let with the land against it, and is what the people pay their rent by. They use a great quantity of sea weed, drove in by storms for manuring land. In november they carry it on, the field being ready marked out in beds for potatoes, and leaving it on them, it rots against the planting season, and gives them great crops. They also do this with fern, cutting it in autumn, and laying it on to the beds, get good crops. The poor people near Galway are very industrious in buying the sullage of the streets of that town; they give 3d. for a horse load of two baskets, and carry it three miles.

ONE circumstance, relative to the progress of the linen manufacture in this country, the town of Galway can instance. Mr. Andrew French of that place, sixteen years ago, imported the first cargo of flax seed of 300 hogshheads, and could only sell 100 of them, whereas now the annual importation rises from 1,500 to 2,300. Twenty years ago there were only 20 looms in Galway, now there are 180. They make coarse sheetings seven-eighths wide, at 9½d. to 11d. a yard; dowlas, 28 inches wide, at 7d. Osnaburgs at 7d. also. There are 8 or 9 bleach greens in the county, but they bleach, generally speaking, only for the country consumption: the great bulk of the linens are sent green to Dublin. In the town and neighbourhood of Loch-rea, there are 300 looms employed on linens that are called *Lochbreas*, of 28 inches in width, which sell at 7d. a yard. All the flax worked in the county is, generally speaking, raised in it. The yarn spun is pound yarn, not done into hanks at all. Very many weavers are in the towns, without having any land more than a cabbage garden. The linen and yarn of the whole county has been calculated at 40,000l. a year.

SEPTEMBER 3d, left Moniva, and took the road to Woodlawn, the seat of Frederick Trench, Esq; passed many bogs of considerable size, perfectly improveable, and without the uncommon exertions I have just described, none could be more anxious for my information than Mr. Trench.

WOODLAWN

WOODLAWN is a feat improved entirely in the modern english taste, and is as advantageous a copy of it as I have any where seen. The house stands on the brow of a rising ground, which looks over a lawn swelling into gentle inequalities ; through these a small stream is converted into a large river, in a manner that does honour to the taste of the owner ; it comes from behind a hill, at the foot of which is a pretty cottage hid by plantation, and flows into a large mass of wood in front of the house : the grounds, which form the banks of this water, are pleasing, and are prettily scattered with clumps and single trees, and surrounded by a margin of wood. The house is an excellent one, so well contrived, that the same disposition of apartments would be agreeable upon almost any scale of building.

MR. Trench's improvements of bog made me solicitous to view them; he was so obliging as to give me a full account, which is as follow. The first method of improving he took was with a bog of 12 acres, exceedingly wet, at the bottom of hills 16 feet deep to his knowledge, but he never yet was able to measure it to the bottom. A red bog, of a light fuzzy substance, like a bed of tow, which would not burn in turf; no other product than bog berries. Part of it so very wet, that could not cut the drains at first wider than four feet and two spits deep; repeated this before the hard frost of 1765; had yet made no progress, it being almost as wet as ever: but took advantage of that frost, to cover the ice two inches thick with clayey gravel; when the thaw came, the gravel sunk, and pressed out the water. The expence of this manuring was 3l. 10s. an acre. This gravelling had such an effect, that in the may following about half of it bore horses with baskets, for carrying on dung, and where it would not bear them, it was carried on by men. The quantity six bushels to the square perch, and immediately planted with potatoes in the common trenching manner. The crop, per acre, 40 barrels each; 44 stone, at 8s. each. Levelled the potatoe trenches in digging for barley, in doing which attended minutely to not burying the manure; this digging cost 30s. an acre, and the barley covered with the spade, which they do very fast, and the expence included in the 30s. The crop of barley 10 barrels an acre, at 8s. After this crop, took no more trouble with it; very rich and luxuriant grass sprang up directly, and would let readily in meadow, at 25s. but part of it in a few years would let at 2l. Two acres of it were not perfectly reclaimed; it was of the moory nature; dug and burnt it, and put in turneps, the crop very good: then dug it for barley, the produce 14 barrels an acre, and the meadow very good ever since. I was over it, and found it a perfect improvement; the hay was fine, the herbage good, and carried the complete appearance of a meadow, except in the drains, where the heath still appears.

NUMBER

N U M B E R 2.

TWENTY-FIVE acres of spongy fungous bog, from 8 to 16 feet deep, had been cut into very great turf holes, which holes, though they held water, and had drowned many a cow, yet had so far drained the bog as to make the less draining necessary; effected it, and then levelled the holes; but as they sunk much, levelled them a second time. Upon this, took the advantage of a frost to manure it with clay and gravel, at 2l. 10s. an acre; then dunged a part with the quantity mentioned already, and the rest of it manured with the ashes of moor, which burnt yellow. Upon this manuring, planted potatoes; the crop 10l. an acre, pretty equal being, as good after the ashes as after the dung. After the potatoes, levelled the trenches, and dug it and sowed wheat; the crop 6 barrels an acre; barley 10 barrels, oats 9 barrels: then left it for meadow, the value 2l. an acre.

N U M B E R 3.

ANOTHER piece of bog the same sort, light and spongy; drained, and then manured with clayey lime-stone gravel, mixed with ditch earth. In the summer planted potatoes; the crop 15 barrels an acre: then dug for oats 6 barrels an acre, meadow ever since, and perfectly good, would let at 1l. 10s. an acre.

N U M B E R 4.

ANOTHER bog of the same sort perfectly well drained, manured with lime, 80 barrels an acre, at 4d. a barrel; planted potatoes; the crop not worth digging; dug it for oats, the crop not worth reaping: then left it in grass, which was indifferent, not worth more than 5s. an acre.

N U M B E R 5.

ANOTHER experiment was on the same sort of bog, which, when well drained, was manured in spring with lime-stone gravel, and then with marle instead of dung, and planted with potatoes; the crop 4l. an acre: then dug it for oats; the crop 6 barrels, and then left to grass; worth 1l. 5s. an acre.

N U M B E R 6.

ANOTHER experiment, the same as the preceding, except lime laid instead of marle: the effect in every respect on a par with the marle. Neither of them yielded half the produce which dung or ashes would have done.

N U M B E R 7.

ANOTHER bog of the same sort was, after draining, manured with lime-stone gravel, and then with the scowering of ditches and earth, to
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the amount of $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep on the surface : expence in all 4l. an acre. Then left, and nothing more done to it ; very good grafs came the next season, worth for grazing 18s. an acre.

N U M B E R 8.

ANOTHER spongy bog drained, and then well gravelled, at 2l. 10s. Left so for three years ; scarce any grafs came, the heath still remaining : planted potatoes on it without any dung or other additional manure ; the crop 4l. an acre ; then dug it smooth, and nothing sown in it, but came immediately to very good pasture, worth 15s. an acre.

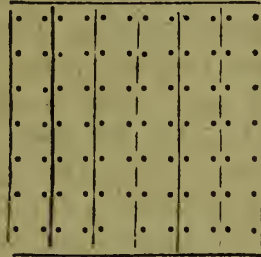
MR. FRENCH recommends, from his experience, the following mode of improving bogs : first, the great object is draining ; main drains should be made on each side the bog, near the firm land ; these cuts should be six feet deep and eight wide, and will cost 1s. a perch. Then cross drains from main drain to main drain, at from 5 to 10 perch from one to the other, at three feet deep and four wide, at the expence of 3d. a perch. Here is the first year's work. The next year go into all the drains and sink them, which will cost 1d. a perch : if a frost comes, carry on the lime-stone gravel, let it be a coat of two inches thick ; if three it will be better ; two inches will cost 3l. if not carried farther than half a quarter of a mile ; if carried a quarter of a mile, it will cost 4l. 10s. if half a mile, 6l. 15s. if a mile 9l. Prefers the clayey lime-stone gravel to every other manure : if that is not to be had, clay ; and if not clay, other gravel ; if no gravel or clay, then lime ; if nothing else, then the light marle under bogs. Upon this manuring spread a compost, one-third dung, one-third ditch earth, and one-third lime-stone gravel, nine bushels to the square perch ; if dung only, six ; and upon that plant potatoes in the common manner. The crop will, on an average, be 30 barrels, at 8s. or 12l. an acre. The poor people will readily give three or four guineas an acre for liberty to plant them. Upon this crop of potatoes spread two bushels of dung more to the perch, and plant a second crop of potatoes, making the furrows where the ridges were, and make the ridges of both crops nine feet wide, and the trenches four. This crop of potatoes will be full as good as the first. Then dig it, levelling the trenches, scooping the sides, to fill up with, and the manured part on the surface ; sow barley ; the crop will be 12 barrels on an average ; with this barley sow grafs seeds, and it will immediately be worth for meadow 1l. 10s. Let this go on for seven years ; then give it a light gravelling, at 1l. 10s. an acre ; dung it four bushels per perch ; plant potatoes, 12l. an acre ; then barley 14 barrels ; and then meadow worth 40s. In this circumstance of letting meadow it should be remarked, that they will hire it at great prices, such as minuted, but the same lands would not let at more than 18s. upon a lease ; for in one case you stand the chance of keeping the land to its present heart, and in the other the tenant has that chance.

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THERE is a circumstance which should be mentioned, the skin of the turf should not be broken for some years by heavy cattle; for wherever they make a hole, the rushes grow at once, which cannot be easily destroyed. Mr. French does not think it at all necessary to keep an improved bog under grafs, as he has found by experience, that the more they are cultivated the better they grow. In the winter he feeds his reclaimed bogs with sheep; they have a perpetual spring of grafs all through that season, and are of a nature so contrary to that of rotting sheep, that they will recover those which are threatened with that distemper.

HE has planted several large clumps in his reclaimed bogs, and has found that almost every kind of tree thrives well in them: I thought the spruce fir seemed to get up the quickest, but all of them appeared perfectly healthy.

Calculation of improving a square mile upon the preceding plan.



2881 perches of main drains, at 2s.	-	-	-	-	288	0	0
20480 perches of croses drains, at 6d.	-	-	-	-	511	19	9
Two miles of road, 10 feet wide, at 75l.	-	-	-	-	150	0	0
Gravelling, on an average of the distance, 6l. per acre	-	-	-	-	3840	0	0
Labour on the dunging, 40s. per acre	-	-	-	-	1280	0	0
					<hr/>		
					6069	19	9
Deduct rent of the land for potatoes, at 3l.					1920	0	0
					<hr/>		
					4149	19	9
Manuring second crop of potatoes, labour 20s. an acre	-				640	0	0
					<hr/>		
					4789	19	9
Deduct rent for potatoes, as before	-	-	-	-	1920	0	0
					<hr/>		
					2869	19	9
Levelling and digging for the barley, 30s. an acre	-				960	0	0
					<hr/>		
					£.3829	19	9
							Brought

Brought over	-	-	-	3829	19	9
A barrel an acre of barley seed, 8s. an acre	-	-	-	256	0	0
Reaping, harvesting, and threshing, 20s. an acre	-	-	-	640	0	0
				<hr/>		
				4725	19	9
Deduct the value of the crop, 9 barrels, at 8s.—3l. 12s.						
an acre	-	-	-	2304	0	0
				<hr/>		
Remain, total expences of the improvement	-	-	-	£.2421	19	9

Rent of 640 acres, at 16s. an acre, 512l. which income is 21l. per cent. for the expenditure of 2421l.

SEVERAL very great deductions are made in this account, because the bog is supposed to be a very large one.

MR. TRENCH buys in year-old bullocks and some spayed heifers, at 1l. 15s. each; sells them out at three-years old, good stores, but not fat, at 6l. 3s. on an average. He has 930 sheep, consisting of 300 ewes, 180 lambs, 270 yearlings and two-year olds, and 180 fat sheep. The annual slaughter and sale is 180 fat wethers, at 1l. 3s.—60 culled ewes, at 15s. In order to save dung for his bog improvement, he has cut a large drain from his yards and stables through the garden, paved it, and keeps it filled with bog earth, and all the urine of the cattle, &c. running into it, makes an excellent compost for the gardener.

AVERAGE rent of the improved part of the county of Galway, 14s. an acre. About Woodlawn 14s. to 18s. The soil all lime-stone gravel, or lime-stone fine found land. The size of farms varies; there are many small ones of from 30 to 100 acres, part grazing and part tillage; also many stock ones, up to 1000 and 1500 acres; and these graziers re-let to the cabbins part of it at a very high rent, by whom are carried on most of the tillage of the country. Mr. Trench remarks, that if good land is let to the poor people, they are sure to destroy it; but give them heath, or what is bad, and they will make it good.

1. Potatoes on the grafs. 2. Summer fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out.—No seeds.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.

1. Potatoes on grafs. 2. Gravel and fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Barley.

5. Oats. 6. Leave it for grafs.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out.

AVERAGE produce of potatoes, 30 barrels, at 42 stone, at 8s. or 12l. Of wheat, 8 barrels, at 20 stone. Of barley, 12 barrels, at 16 stone. Of oats, 12 barrels, at 14 stone.

EVERY poor man sows some flax, but still they do not raise enough for their spinning, for that is universal. Lime-stone gravel is the general manure. No lime, though it is every where to be had; the price to burn is 4d. a barrel of 3 bushels roach. Every cabin has eight or nine acres, and

and two or three cows, or two cows and one horfe; and about half have horfes, two or three pigs, and many poultry; half a rood of flax, one acre potatoes, or half at a medium. They live on potatoes, oats, or barley bread, or butter; like oats much better. Their circumstances are much improved in 20 years. They pay rent 12s. to 14s. an acre for their lands.

SEPTEMBER 4th, to Kiltartan, the feat of Robert Gregory, Esq. who is engaged in pursuits which, if well imitated, will improve the face of the country not a little. He has built a large house with numerous offices, and taken 5 or 600 acres of land into his own hands, which I found him improving with great spirit. Walling was his first object, of which he has executed many miles in the most perfect manner: his dry ones, 6 feet high, 3 feet and a half thick at bottom, and 20 inches at top, cost 2s. 6d. the perch, running measure. Piers in mortar, with a gate and irons complete, 1l. 14s. Walls in mortar, five feet high, cost 6s. a perch. He has fixed two english bailiffs on his farm, one for accounts and overlooking his walling and other business; and another from Norfolk, for introducing the turnep husbandry; he has 12 acres this year; and what particularly pleased me, I saw some irishmen hoeing them; the Norfolk man had taught them; and I was convinced in a moment, that these people would by practice soon attain a sufficient degree of perfection in it. The soil around is all a dry sound good lime-stone land, and lets from 10s. to 12s. an acre, some at more. It is in general applied to sheep. Mr. Gregory has a very noble nursery, from which he is making plantations, which will soon be a great ornament to the country.

SEPTEMBER 5th, to Drumoland, the feat of Sir Lucius O'Brien, in the county of Clare, a gentleman who had been repeatedly assiduous to procure me every sort of information. I should remark, as I have now left Galway, that that county, from entering it in the road to Tuam till leaving it to-day, has been, upon the whole, inferior to most of the parts I have travelled in Ireland in point of beauty: there are not mountains of a magnitude to make the view striking. It is perfectly free from woods, and even trees, except about gentlemen's houses, nor has it a variety in its face. I do not, however, speak without exception; I passed some tracts which are chearful. Drummoland has a pleasing variety of grounds about the house; it stands on a hill gently rising from a lake of 24 acres, in the middle of a noble wood of oak, ash, poplar, &c. three beautiful hills rise above it, over which the plantations spread in a varied manner; and these hills command very fine views of the great rivers Fergus and Shannon at their junction, being each of them a league wide. For the following particulars I am indebted to Sir Lucius O'Brien.

AVERAGE rent of the county of Clare, 5s. The bad tracts of land in the county, are the east mountains, part of the barony of Burrin, and the great peninsula, which forms the north shore of the Shannon.

Great

Great tracts are let at nothing at all, but there are 20,000 acres from Paradise hill, along the Fergus and Shannon to Limerick, which let at 20s. an acre. These lands are called the *Corcasses*. The soil of them is either a rich black loam, or a deep rich blue clay; and all the higher lands are lime-stone, or lime-stone gravel. The mountains are generally grit-stone. The size of farms is various, Captain Tim. Macnamara farms 7000 acres, but part in other counties. Mr. Singleton, 4000 acres. A farm of 300 l. a year is a very small one; 500 l. a year middling; this is speaking of stock-farms. The tillage of the country is carried on by little farmers, from 20 l. to 100 l. a year; but most of it by the poor labourers, who are generally under-tenants, not holding of the landlords. The courses of crops are,

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.
7. Lay it out to grafs.
1. Beans. 2. Bere. 3. Barley. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.
7. Oats. 8. Lay it out, or beans again.

OF wheat they sow 10 to 15 stone an acre; the crop, in the corcass grounds, 8 barrels, in the other lands 5 or 6 : 20 stone to the barrel. Potatoes they measure by the barrel of 48 stone: they plant 6 to the acre, and the average produce 50 barrels. They never plant them on the corcass lands, for they will not grow there. Mr. Fitzgerald, of Sheperton, has had 100 barrels per acre; the favourite sorts are the apple, the Castania, the Buck, being a species of the Howard. They fat pigs on them; but what much amazed me, was fattening hogs on grafs, which they do very generally, and make them as fat as a bullock, but put them up to beans for three weeks to harden the fat. Of barley they sow 14 stone an acre, and get six barrels, at 32 stone each. Bere, two rowed barley, called *english* here, and four rowed, called *dutch*, and of these the bere yields best. Mr. Singleton has had 40 barrels of bere per acre, each 16 stone on the corcass land. Of oats they sow 21 stone to the acre, and get 12 barrels, on an average 14 stone each; and on the corcass land 16. Of beans they sow 35 stone to the acre, sow them on the green sod soon after christmas, and plough them in; never hand-hoe or weed them: the average crop 20 barrels, at 20 stone; 30 the greatest; they are used for home consumption in dear years, and for exportation in cheap. The poor people make bread of them, and eat them boiled, and they prefer a bushel of them to a bushel of wheat; but they will not eat them, except in a scarcity. No pease sown, but rape in considerable quantities in mountain grounds, or boggy, both of which are burnt for it. They plough the furrow very shallow, and burn it: they never feed it. The crop of seed 8 barrels, at 16 st. at from 7s. 6d. to 18s. a barrel, generally from 14s. to 17s. It is pressed into oil at the mills of six mile bridge and Scariff, near Killaloe; but the greatest part is bought up by the merchants of Limerick for exportation for Holland, and last year

year some part of it has been sent to Great Britain, in consequence of the act which passed last sessions. The rape cakes are all exported to England for manure: the price of them at 45s. or 42s. per ton. The rape and the bean straw are burnt to ashes for the soap boilers; and Mr. Singleton has a kiln contrived on purpose for burning lime with it, collecting the ashes at the same time that the lime is burnt. No clover is sown, except by Sir Lucius O'Brien. Flax is sown in small quantities by the poor people for their own consumption; and some yarn sold, but not much from the whole county. Spinning is by no means general; not half the women spin. Some linens, bundle cloths, and Clare dowlas, for exportation in small quantities, and other sorts, enough for home consumption. Wool is spun for cloathing for the people, into worsted yarn for ferges, and into yarn for stockings. Great quantities of frizes are sold out of the county.

MUCH heath waste land, many hundreds of acres every year are brought in by paring and burning for rape, but use no manure for it; after that wheat, and get good crops, and then two, three, or four crops of oats, good ones; then left for grass, and comes tolerable herbage, worth 5s. an acre.

THE principal grazing system consists in a union of both rearing and fattening; the rearing farms generally at a considerable distance from the rich lands on the Fergus and Shannon. The most profitable management of grazing, is to buy in year-olds upon this system, but it can only be done, by hewing a variety of land, commonly at a distance. It is found much more beneficial than buying in bullocks in autumn, and cows in may, as the Meath graziers do.

THE average price of the year-olds, is from 2l. 2s. to 2l. 10s. and the price sold at four and a half year-olds, weighing $4\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. $4\frac{1}{2}$, to $5\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. is on an average at 8l. For cows bought in in may, 3l. 3s. to 3l. 12s. and sell at 5l. 10s. An acre of the corcass-land will fatten one of these bullocks, but then it must not be winter-fed at all. Sheep, on an average, shear three to a stone of 16 lb. and sell at 1s. per lb. Mr. Macnamara sold this year 55 bags, besides his lambs wool; the weight is from six hundred, to seven and a half, fifty stone, and this year's price 17s. 6d. a stone. Upon the lime-stone sheep-walks of this county, they keep from one and a half to five; on an average, three. The loss on stock-sheep, bullocks, &c. will not amount to more than one per cent. on the value. For hiring and stocking a grazing farm, three rents are reckoned to do. Those bullocks that are to be fattened the summer following, they give hay most part of the winter, for four or five months, as much as they will eat, which will be half an acre of good meadow.

THERE are 4000 bullocks fattened annually in the county of Clare; bought in at 6l. and sold out at 10l. and 3000 cows, bought in at
3l.

31. and sold fat at 5l. also 6000 fat wethers, sold out of the county annually at 20s. each.

THIS country is famous for cyder-orchards, the cakagee especially, which is incomparably fine. An acre of trees yields from four to ten hogsheds per annum, average six, and what is very uncommon in the cyder counties of England, yield a crop every year. I never beheld trees so loaden with apples as in Sir Lucius O'Brien's orchard; it amazed me that they did not break under the immense load which bowed down the branches. He expected a hogshed a tree from several.

LAND sells at twenty years purchase. Rents fell in the rearing lands 5s. or 6s. in the pound, but rich lands fell very little. Tythes are compounded by a composition made every year by the piece. Fat bullocks nothing. Sheep, 20s. per hundred. Wheat, 5s. Barley, 3s. Oats, 2s. Potatoes, 10s. Middle men, not common, but much land re-let, arising from the long tenures which are given of three lives, &c. The poor live upon potatoes ten months of the year; but if a mild winter, and a good crop, all the year on them. They keep cows very generally, but not so many as in the list of Sir Lucius's tenants. Labour is usually paid for with land. Working-days of roman catholics may be reckoned 250 in a year, which are paid for with as much land as amounts to about six pounds, and the good and bad master is distinguished by this land being reckoned at an high or a low rent. The state of the poor, on comparison with what they were twenty years ago, is that they are much increased in numbers, and better clad than they were, and more regularly fed, in being freed from those scarcities which were felt before the laws for the increase of tillage. Relative to religion, there was a return to the committee of religion, in the house of Commons, in 1765, when the return of Clare was as follows, in five divisions:

No. 1.	896 protestants.	16831 catholics
2.	1089	12156
3.	291	2694
4.	99	786
5.	101	4677
	<hr/> 2476	<hr/> 37144
		2476
		<hr/> 3962
	Total	

16 to 1, and 404 over.

LUCERNE, Sir Lucius cultivated for some years, and found while it was attended to, and kept clean, that it was of great use for horses, but his absence and neglect destroyed it. Relative to smuggling wool from Clare, he gave me several strong reasons for believing that there had

had not been any for some years; that county is well situated for it, and some ships smuggled brandy and tobacco, and could carry it away with great ease, yet not one goes. Sir Lucius was executor to a man who made a fortune by it twenty-five years ago, but he would never smuggle when above 10s. a stone; I had the same account in Galway. The cause of the high price of wool, is the admission of woollen yarn in all the ports of England, and the increased demand in the Manchester fabric for that yarn, which demand would have operated in England as in Ireland, had the cheapness of spinning been equal. Another cause, the increase of population, and the people being better clad. Sending a pound of wool to France, smugglers compute to be sixpence, which is fifty per cent. on the present prime cost. Thus the french could get wool much cheaper from England, where the prime cost is lower. There is none from Cork, for being a manufacturing town, the people would not allow it. A duty of 4d. per stone of 18 lb. on woollen and worsted yarn exported, marks the quantity which Ireland grows beyond its own consumption. Raw wool, two thousand to 10,000 stone, the rest yarn, which is nearly doubled in value by the manufacture. The quantity of broad-cloth and ferges, that is, old and new drapery, imported from England, equals the export of woollen yarn. It is remarkable that upon the corcafs lands in this county, there are several tools in use, which are called *Dutch*, a *Dutch* spade, a *Dutch* plough, &c.

PARTICULARS of some of Sir Lucius O'Brien's labourers.

Men.	Souls per cabin	Cows	Hor- ses	Sheep	Pota- toes, acres	Corn, acres	Men.	Souls per cabin	Cows	Hor- ses.	Sheep	Pota- toes, acres	Corn acres
No. 1	7	3	1	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	No. 25	5	4	1	6	1	3
2	5	1	2	8	1	4	26	5	0	0	5	$\frac{1}{4}$	2
3	3	2	0	10	1	1	27	6	0	0	0	0	0
4	6	2	1	9	$1\frac{1}{4}$	3	28	7	1	0	6	$\frac{3}{4}$	2
5	7	2	0	20	$\frac{3}{4}$	3	29	4	1	0	6	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$
6	8	3	0	3	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	30	4	1	1	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	2
7	7	1	0	3	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	31	8	3	1	12	$1\frac{1}{2}$	3
8	7	3	1	12	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	32	9	5	1	10	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$
9	6	0	1	6	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	33	6	6	1	16	1	$3\frac{1}{2}$
10	5	1	1	6	$\frac{1}{4}$	1	34	4	2	0	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	2
11	6	1	0	4	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	35	7	2	1	6	1	2
12	5	0	0	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	36	7	3	1	11	$\frac{3}{4}$	2
13	5	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	37	8	3	1	12	$1\frac{1}{4}$	2
14	3	1	0	4	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	38	4	3	1	10	$1\frac{1}{4}$	2
15	6	1	0	4	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	39	10	0	1	20	2	2
16	3	0	0	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	40	10	4	2	12	$1\frac{1}{2}$	2
17	3	0	0	6	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	41	12	8	5	40	4	3
18	9	3	0	0	0	0	42	7	5	2	20	3	4
19	3	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	43	8	5	2	12	3	3
20	5	5	1	12	$1\frac{1}{2}$	6							
21	8	5	1	10	2	4		267	109	31	381	$45\frac{1}{4}$	89
22	4	4	0	6	$1\frac{1}{2}$	2							
23	7	3	1	18	$\frac{3}{4}$	4	Average	6	3	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$	1	$2\frac{1}{4}$
24	8	2	0	6	1	2							

H h

Sir

SIR Lucius Obrien introduced me to two of the most considerable graziers in the county, Mr. Singleton, and Mr. Fitzgerald, and rode through a part of their farms. Mr. Singleton's corkafs meadows were one continued bed of rushes, till he destroyed them by a method which alone proved effectual, which is digging up the rush, and turning it topsy-turvy into the hole again, this he finds effectually destroys them, and the expence is not so great as might be imagined. This gentleman has more tillage-land than common upon grazing farms; he shewed me a *haggard*, well filled with wheat stacks; seventeen acres of that grain yielded him 196 barrels. Mr. Fitzgerald is a very attentive farmer, and in several particulars, conducts his business upon principles different from those which are common in Ireland. He has built excellent farming-offices; particularly a barn, exceedingly well contrived; the corn may be thrown at once from the part of the barn where it is stowed on to two threshing floors, the one over another, and from the stacks through a window into the barn. His hay is also thrown in the same manner, down into the cow-house, and his potatoes into a vault. These conveniencies, which are a great saving of labour, are gained by the buildings being raised on the side of a steep hill, cut away for the purpose. His cows he keeps in the house all winter, by which means they are better wintered, and he raises a great quantity of manure. The chaff of his corn crops he saves carefully, which is directly contrary to the country; and what is much more, cuts much hay and straw into chaff, with an engine, which he finds to answer perfectly well; the man works it with one hand, and supplies it with the other, being fixed against the wall.

SEPTEMBER the 8th, left Drumoland. Sir Lucius rode with me thro' Clonmelly, to the hill above Bunratty Castle, for a view of the Shannon. Clonmelly is a division of Drumline parish, 900 acres of Corkafs land in one lot, which is cheap, at 30s. an acre. I went into some of the pastures, which were stocked with very fine bullocks, at the rate of one to every acre. In this neighbourhood, Mr. Hickman has a close of 20 acres, which, when in his own hands, fattened him 2 cows per acre, and in winter fed him 100 wethers, to the improvement of 6s. each. The profit by the cows was 4l. and by the sheep 1l. 10s. per acre: in all 5l. 5s. I had this fact from his own mouth. The richness of these corcasses, which are flat lands on the river side, that have been gained at different times from the salt water, is very great. When in tillage, they sometimes yield extraordinary crops; 50 flat barrels an acre of bere have been known, sixteen of barley, and from 20 to 24 of oats are common crops. From Clonmelly Hill, the prospect is very noble. There is a view of the Shannon from Limerick to Foynes Island, which is 30 miles, with all its bays, bends, islands, and

and fertile shores. It is from one to three miles broad, a most noble river, deserving regal navies for its ornament, or what are better, fleets of merchantmen, the chearful signs of far extended commerce, instead of a few miserable fishing boats, the only canvass that swelled upon the scene: but the want of commerce in her ports is the misfortune, not the fault of Ireland. Thanks for the deficiency to that illiberal spirit of trading jealousy, which has at times actuated and disgraced so many nations. The prospect has a noble outline in the bold mountains of Tipperary, Cork, Limerick, and Kerry. The whole view magnificent.

AT the foot of this hill is the castle of Bunratty, a very large edifice, the seat of the O'Briens, princes of Thomond; it stands on the bank of a river, which falls into the Shannon near it. About this castle, and that of Rosmanagher, the land is the best in the county of Clare; it is worth 1l. 13s. an acre, and fats a bullock per acre in summer, besides winter feed.

To Limerick, through a chearful country, on the banks of the river, in a vale surrounded by distant mountains. That city is very finely situated, partly on an island formed by the Shannon. The new part, called Newtown Pery, from Mr. Pery, the speaker, who owns a considerable part of the city, and represents it in parliament, is well built. The houses are new ones, of brick, large and in right lines. There is a communication with the rest of the town by a handsome bridge of three large arches, erected at Mr. Pery's expence. Here are docks, quays, and a custom-house, which is a good building, faces the river, and on the opposite banks is a large quadrangular one, the house of industry. This part of Limerick is very chearful and agreeable, and carries all the marks of a flourishing place.

THE exports of this port are beef, pork, butter, hides, and rape-seed. The imports are rum, sugar, timber, tobacco, wines, coals, bark, salt, &c. The customs and excise, about 16 years ago, amounted to 16,000l. at present 32,000l. and rather more four or five years ago.

Whole revenue	-	1751	—	£. 16,000
		1775	—	51,000

Revenue of the port of Limerick, year ending

March 25	1759	—	—	—	£. 20,494
	1760	—	—	—	29,197
	1761	—	—	—	20,727
	1762	—	—	—	20,650
	1763	—	—	—	20,525
	1764	—	—	—	32,635
	1765	—	—	—	31,099.

Com. Jour. vol. 14. p. 713

Account of duties paid on goods imported and exported in Limerick.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
1764	£. 19,869 15 9	£. 2195 6 7
1765	21,332 4 8	1964 5 2
1766	16,729 8 2	1815 11 8
1767	16,316 10 0	2365 4 4
1768	16,571 12 8	2229 17 2
1769	20,237 12 7	1855 0 8
1770	22,138 0 4	1941 3 8
1771	20,213 12 6	2455 2 2
1772	22,003 2 0	3046 11 10
1773	20,606 15 7	2282 1 7
1774	17,317 0 9	2150 13 9
1775	16,979 10 6	2647 5 9

Salted, last year, 43,700 pigs; average $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Horned cattle (of which many were cows) 12,200. The number of bullocks killed here in a year amounts to 13,000; increased pretty considerably in twenty years. They have been salting pigs all summer. Pork now 29s. 3d. per cwt. was only 12s. seven years ago. The value of bullocks hides are on an average 35s. Cows 24s. per cwt. Butter exported in casks, from two to three cwt. each, now 44s. a cwt. 6 years ago only 25s. The shipping belonging to the town, 1 of 120 tons.

1 150
 3 150 to 250
 1 140
 1 96
 1 50

but not increased. A good deal of rape seed shipped off for Holland, and one hundred tons of rape cakes to Wells and Lynn in Norfolk, at 40s. a ton. Till this last year at 25s. a ton. Many thousand loads of dung thrown into the Shannon, both in the town and many places along the river. Within five or six years they have taken some away, but not much. Town parks let at 4l. 4s. to 5l. for 10 miles every way the rent is 25s. to 30s. Much flour goes to Dublin from this county and Tipperary on the land-carriage bounty. There is a great increase of tillage: thrice the corn grown that there was formerly: There has been much pasturage broken up on this account; some bullock land, and some sheep land. Great quantities of butter made within a few miles of Limerick. Scarce any spinning here, or in the neighbourhood, either of wool or flax. The poor live upon potatoes and milk, generally speaking, with some oatmeal. They do not all keep cows; those who do not, buy, and pay 1d. for three quarts of skim milk. The rent of their cabbins and one-fourth of an acre 15s. to 20s. build them themselves.

selves. They are in a better situation in most respects than twenty years ago. Pigs are much increased, chiefly or entirely bred by the cottars, and the high price has been of prodigious consequence to them. They are much better clad than they were. Date their increase of this from the open cattle trade to England. Population has much increased within twenty years, and the city also, but was more populous six years ago than at present. Emigrations were known from hence; two ships went commonly till the war. Between 1740 and 1750, there were only four carriages in and about Limerick, the Bishop's, the Dean's, and one other Clergyman's, and one neighbouring Gentleman's. Four years ago there were above seventy coaches and post-chaises in Limerick, and one mile round it. In Limerick district, now 183 four wheeled carriages; 115 two wheeled ditto.

Price of Provisions.

Wheat, 1s. 1d. a stone.	Teal, 10d. a couple
Barley and oats, 5d $\frac{1}{2}$. to 6d.	Plover, 6d. a couple
Scotch coals, 18s. Whitehaven, 20s.	Widgeon, 10d. ditto.
A boat load of turf, 20 tons, 45s.	Hares, 1s. each, commonly fold all the year round
Salmon, three halfpence	Woodcocks, 20d. to 2s. 2d. a brace
Trout, 2d. very fine, per lb.	Oysters, 4d. to 1s. a 100.
Eels, 2d. a pound.	Lobsters, 1s. to 1s. 6d. if good.
Rabbits, 8d. a couple	
Wild ducks, 20d. to 2s. a couple	

Land sells at twenty years purchase. Rents were at the highest in 1765, fell since, but in four years have fallen 8s. to 10s. an acre about Limerick. They are at a stand at present, owing to the high price of provisions from pasture. The number of people in Limerick, are computed at 32,000, it is exceeding populous for the size; the chief street quite crowded; many sedan chairs in town, and some hackney chaises. Assemblies the year round, in a new assembly-house, built for the purpose; and plays and concerts common.

UPON the whole, Limerick must be a very gay place, but when the usual number of troops are in town, much more so. To shew the general expences of living, I was told of a person's keeping a carriage, four horses, three men, three maids, a good table, a wife, three children, and a nurse, and all for 500 l. a year:

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
A footman, - - - - -	4	4	0	to	6	6	0
A professed woman cook - - - - -					6	6	0
A house-maid - - - - -					3	0	0
A kitchen-maid - - - - -					2	0	0
A butler - - - - -	10	0	0	to	12	0	0
					A barrel		

A barrel of beef or pork, 200lb. weight. Vessels of 400 tons can come up with spring tides, which rise 14 feet.

SEPTEMBER 9th, to Castle Oliver; various country, not so rich to appearance as the corcaffes, being fed bare: much hilly sheep-walk, and for a considerable way, a full third of it potatoes and corn: no sign of depopulation. Just before I got to the hills, a field of ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) buried the cows. The first view of Castle Oliver interesting. After rising a mountain so high that no one could think of any house, you come in view of a vale, quite filled with fine woods, fields margined with trees, and hedge plantations climbing up the mountains. Having engaged myself to Mr. Oliver, to return from Killarney by his house, as he was confined to Limerick by the affizes, I shall omit saying any thing of it at present.

SEPTEMBER 10th, reached Annsgrove, the seat of Richard Aldworth, Esq; to whom I am obliged for the following particulars. Farms about Annsgrove, in the parish of Castle Town Roche, rise from 50 acres to 200, a few smaller. It abounds exceedingly with land jobbers, who have hired large tracts, and re-let them to tenants, and those to under ones, but gentlemen are getting out of this system now. No graziers here; the rents are made by tillage and sheep, and a few dairies; the soil is all lime-stone, much fine hazel loam, from 4 to 18 inches deep. A hill runs through this country, which is wet woodcock clay. It lets in general from 7s. to 22s. plantation acre, average 15s. The barony of Orrery in this county (Corke) is as rich as Limerick; lets from 25s. to 35s. an acre. The next in Fermoy 13s. Duhallow has much mountains and unimproved; vast tracts of it heath, but rears at present great numbers of young cattle, and many dairies, average rent 7s. Condons and Clangibon 15s. Imokilly, a very fine corn country. Barrymore, rough, 7s. Barrets mountains, with bog, 4s. Musherry, rough and uncultivated, 4s. Kinalea yields more corn than any of them; lets at 14s. the english acre. The baronies of Kerrycurihy and Courcy's upon the coast are all high let, from situation, 10s. the english acre. In Carbery, there are great quantities of wild country, and much uncultivated; provisions are extravagantly cheap, from want of communications. The whole county, upon an average, 7s. The course of crops about Annsgrove:

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.
7. Leave it for three years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Leave it for three or four years.

FLAX sown in patches upon lay, and sometimes after potatoes. Potatoes they plant in a most slovenly manner, leaving the small ones in the ground of the first crop, in order to be feed for the second, by which means they are not sliced; sometimes a sharp frost catches them, and destroys

destroys all these roots. They plant many on grass without dung, on the rich land, and pay 25s. to 50s. an acre for liberty to do it. Of wheat they sow 20 stone per acre, and get on an average 7 barrels. They seldom sow it till february; they think the first dark nights in that month the best seed time in the year. But it is in fact owing to their taking their potatoes up so late, which they do not begin till near christmas. Some, however, are earlier, and get their wheat in in november and december. They sow, of oats, a kilderkin, or 4 bushels of 32 gallons. Neither pease, beans, nor rape in the country, but turneps and clover are creeping in among gentlemen. Flax is sown by every body for their own use, which they spin, and get woven into linen for themselves, and what they have to spare, sell in yarn. There are very few of these weavers.

LIME is the great manure; they lay 100 common barrels to the acre, lasts seven or eight good crops, and leaves the ground the better for it: but their principle is to exhaust as fast as possible in consequence of liming. It costs them 8d. a barrel roach. Burn with culm from the coal pits in the barony of Duhallow. This coal is only used for drying malt, smiths forges, &c. but not for common fuel. They have also a very rich manure, which is rotten lime-stone, as they call it. It is a rock, and rises very hard, like a lime-stone quarry, but when exposed to the air, falls into sand; it has a strong fermentation with acids, and gives great crops: they do not, however, carry it above a mile and half. Paring and burning they are very fond of for potatoes, and sometimes for bere, but the landlords prevent the practice. They get very great crops by it, and do it to chuse on waste lands; pare with an instrument they call a *graffane*, and the husbandry they call *graffaning* and burning. It is a very strong hoe with which they cut up the turf, rolling it up with their foot as they do it, and leaving it to dry in order to burn. They do it in march or april for their potatoe planting; and though it makes them very late, yet the crops never fail. Soot is thrown away, and in general malt dust, as they do not screen their malt. The fences of common farmers are making banks, and sowing furze seed. Grass lands are applied to feeding sheep and cows. Their sheep system is that of breeding. They keep their lambs till they are two year old wethers, and then sell them to those who fatten near the coast. These they sell at 11s. to 18s. each; and they cull some ewes every year, which the butchers buy at 14s. or 15s. They sheer generally on an average 4 lb. wool, which sells 13s. to 19s. 6d. a stone, at which amazing price some was sold this year. The cottars have all sheep, which they milk for their families. The poor people reckon their cattle by *collops*, that is, proportions. The heaviest collop is six sheep, the next is a horse, the next two heifers, and lastly the cow. Flocks rise to 500 sheep; no folding. Dairies are considerable. They rise from 20 to 50 cows, are employed in making butter only; in some parts of the county they make very good cheese. An
acre

acre and a quarter maintains a cow in summer and winter grafs and hay. The farmer generally lets them out to dairymen, at 2l. a cow, and a guinea for horn money; the 40s. is for the butter, and the guinea for the other produce, four milk, pigs, and calf. But sometimes the rent is in butter a hundred weight per cow delivered in Corke, and the guinea is in cash. The produce is not much more than this cwt. of butter; for the dairyman's profit lies principally in having the grafs of a cow, an acre of ground, and a cabbin and garden, and they are generally very poor. They rear many pigs on account of the dairies, about a pig to every cow, and a calf to every two cows, which they feed on four milk, giving them no new milk. They are attentive to have their cows calve in may. The tillage of the farmers is all done by horses; that of the gentlemen by oxen. Four horses and three men to every plough, one to drive, one to hold, and another with a pole, bearing on the beam to keep it in the ground; but they do an acre a day, by means of leaving a great space untouched in the middle of each land, where they begin by lapping the fods to meet. To 100 acres of tillage they keep about six horses; they make up their teams, borrowing of one another. The chaff is thrown away as every where else. Hire of a car and horse, and driver, 1s. 6d. a day. Price of carriage a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cwt. a mile. In hiring farms, they will manage to take a 100 acres without a 100 pence. They will do it without teams or cattle, or any thing; by re-letting the land for potatoes, grafs for cows, &c. and if a fellow gets 5l. by a 100 acres, he is very well satisfied. Land sells at 20 years purchase. Rents, at present, at a stand; rather upon the rise, owing to the price of butter; they sell 3s. 6d. in the pound in 1772 and 3. Tythes are compounded. Wheat pays 8s. the english acre: some 6s. Barley and Bere 6s. Potatoes 6s. Mowing ground 2s. Sheep 3d. Lambs 2d. Cows 2d. Leases are generally 31 years, or three lives, or for ever.

THE poor people in general occupy from 10 to 15 acres; but the most common way is hiring in partnership in rundale; and they have changedale also. Most of them have only a cabbin and a cabbage garden, and the size is usually enough for 100 plants; and their rent for it 20s: in this case they pay their neighbour for the grafs of their cow; but I was sorry to find that some of them have no cows. They live the year through upon potatoes, and for half the year have nothing but water with them. They have all a pig, and some of them several, but kill one for themselves at christmas. Their circumstances are very generally better than twenty years ago, especially in cloathing, but in food no great difference. Spinning is the general business of the women: they spin infinitely more wool than flax. All the poor keep a collop of sheep; as soon as the lamb is fit to kill, they sell it, except enough to keep up the stock, in order to have the milk. In the little towns of Donneraile, Mitchellstown, Mallow, Kilworth, Kanturk, and Newmarket, are clothiers

thiers, who buy up the wool, employ combers in their houses, who make considerable wages, and when combed, they have a day fixed for the poor to come and take it, in order to spin it into worsted, and pay them by the ball, by which they earn one penny three farthings to two-pence a day. The clothier exports this worsted from Cork to Bristol and Norwich. Of late they have worked a good deal of it into serges, which are sent to Dublin by land-carriage, and from thence to the North, from whence it is smuggled into England by way of Scotland. The poor people's wool is worked into frizes for the use of the men. The weavers who work these frizes and serges live about the country in the cabbins. Immense quantities of raw wool are sent to Cork from all parts; 500 cars have been seen in a line; and it is supposed to be sent in large quantities to France. No emigrations. All the poor people are roman catholics, and among them are the descendants of the old families who once possessed the country, of which they still preserve the full memory, inasmuch, that a gentleman's labourer will regularly leave to his son, by will, his master's estate.

IRELAND has very few such farmers as Mr. Aldworth; for above 600 acres in tillage is such a business as I have nowhere met with. In his improvements, turneps formed a considerable article; in the year 1772 he began with them, one acre: in 1774 he had two acres: in 1775, five acres: and this year, eight. He has always hoed them, but not yet in any perfection, though improving. He fed them on the land with sheep hurdles; they were chiefly fat wethers, and the benefit he found very great; being able, by no other means, to keep them fat, which the turneps did in great perfection. He also carted some off for stall-feeding bullocks and cows, which answered perfectly well. A very great advantage he found from turneps in the barley which succeeded, being incomparably better than after any other preparation. Mr. Aldworth is, upon the whole, so well persuaded of the advantage of the culture, that he is determined to increase the quantity every year, till he gets a fourth part of his farm under them. The effect of lime was never displayed in a clearer manner than upon Mr. Aldworth's farm. The soil, I should observe, is a loam and brick clay, on a rock of limestone, from nine inches to three feet deep on it; but what is remarkable, all the loose surface stones are grit, and all the quarries limestone. Upon this soil he has found the benefit surprizingly great: where he limes he gets very good crops; and where he does not he can get no crops at all. In my life I never saw this clearer displayed than in two of his fields this year, one wheat and the other barley; in each there was about an acre not limed, but all the rest had 100 barrels an acre; the parts limed had a very fine crop, but those two spots a wretched one; literally speaking, not worth mowing; and another smaller patch in the barley field the same; the crop excellent to an inch where the

lime was laid, and immediately adjoining nothing but weeds. Another experiment, shewing the great efficacy of it, was a comparison he made of it with the sheep fold; he folded part without liming in a field, the rest of which was limed, and the superiority of the latter part was very great. Mr. Aldworth spreads it on his fallows for wheat, and on his potatoe-land for barley. It is to be noted that this land was never limed before. Upon another part of his farm which had been limed, he does not find the benefit to be equal. He burns his lime in both running and standing kilns; in the former with culm, and the expence to him is 8d. a barrel roach. In the standing kilns he burns without breaking the stones, 1500 barrels at a time with faggots, and in this way it is 6d. a barrel. These kilns, he remarks, should be built with very great strength, or the extreme heat of the fire bursts the masonry. His liming has been upon so extensive a scale, that last year he had seven kilns burning, two of them standing ones, and burned in all above 10,000 barrels, and as much this year, all for manuring his own farm. Mr. Aldworth has erected a bolting-mill which will grind 5000 barrels of wheat, and it is curious to observe the effect of it as a newly-established market: the first year he ground 1100 barrels, being all he could get; the next year, the present, it will be 5000. He has also taken pains to improve the breed of sheep, by buying english ewes. The same attention he has given to swine and various other articles. Reynold's turnep-cabbage he has planted two years for late feeding of sheep in the spring: he finds them of excellent use, and is determined never to be without them. He began to plant hops in 1772 upon half an acre of land, a fine rich red loam a yard deep; they succeeded perfectly well; and the second year yielded 18 cwt. the half acre of as good hops as ever he met. In 1773 he added two acres: in 1775 he planted another acre: last year the crop failed, not getting above 3 or 4 cwt. This year he has a very good appearance. Has not found the climate at all against them; and is clear that it may be a very advantageous branch of culture. He, however, remarked, that they are not so strong as english hops; owing, perhaps, to want of experience in drying, &c. He manures them every third year. Mr. Aldworth is the only person in this country that folds his sheep; he finds the practice very useful, but not equal, as observed before, to lime.

SEPTEMBER 11th, accompanied Mr. Aldworth and family to his neighbour, Mr. Hyde's, on the banks of the Black Water, which are very cheerful; and many of the views fine, particularly from the yard, of a new church on the river: pass many large woods in sight. Mr. Hyde's is a place entirely of his own forming. The lawn before the house has a very pleasing inequality of surface, and the whole scenery well improved and cheerful.

It

IT was with regret I left so agreeable and liberal a family as that of Annsgrove, nor should I forget to mention that every thing about the place had a much nearer resemblance to an english than an irish residence, where so many *fine* places want *neatness*, and where, after great expence, so little is found *complete*. Mrs. Aldworth has ornamented a beautiful glen, which winds behind the house, in a manner that does honour to her taste; she has traced her paths so as to command all the beauties of rock, wood, and a sweet river which glides beneath both: it is a most agreeable scenery.

SEPTEMBER 12th, to Doneraile, with Mr. Aldworth. In our way called on a woollen manufacturer, Mr. Hannam, at Kilbrack, who gave me the following particulars of the trade. It consists in buying the wool about the country, and combing it upon their own account. The combers earn 10s. a week, or 40 balls at 3d. The fleeces he buys weighs 5lb. on an average. To every 22 stone of rough fleece there are 3 stone of short, coarse, and waste; 2 stone of the 3 are worth 10s. a stone, for coarse works, frizes, &c. the third stone 13s. 4d. The remaining 19 stone of combing wool give 8 balls each of 24 ounces. To each stone there is one pound and three quarters of pinions of short wool that comes out in the combing. These balls are given to women to spin, and 9d. a ball is paid them for it; a woman can spin the balls in two days and a half if she sticks to it all day; in three days and do trifles besides. Then the worsted, in skains twelve to the ball, is sent to Cork or Limerick for exportation. Not above one-sixth part, to his knowledge, is woven at home. Employes seven weavers making serges. Forty-four beer serges sell at 1s. 2d. a yard; is 29 inches broad, and the pieces 136 yards long. Pays two-pence-halfpenny a yard for weaving; and a man weaves eight in a day; he weaves a piece in three weeks, and loses one day in that time in preparing his loom. The Connaught wool he prefers; it is of a middling length, and a fine staple: finds that the short wool is the finest. At Charleville there are thirty looms in it. The serges are all sent to Dublin to a factor, who sells them at 5l. per cent. commission. Are in general sent to Scotland. The demand for them is better than it was: it has been improving for three years. But the prices of both serges and worsted have not risen proportionally to that of wool.

An estimate of the cloathing trade.

20	combers would comb in a year 5000 stone of wool, at				
	16s. per stone	-	-	-	- 4000 0 0
	The said combers would comb 800 balls a week, at 3d.				
	per ball, comes to 10l. in the year	-	-	-	- 520 0 0
20	Carried over	-	-	-	£.4520 0 0
	I i 2				Brought

20	Brought over	-	-	-	4520	0	0
300	women and girls to spin the above, and which would be the advantage of the clothier, to form into three houses or factories of 100 each; their hire, at 9d. a ball, comes to	-	-	-	1560	0	0
60	weavers would weave up the said worsted, at 8d. each a day, 24l. a week, the year	-	-	-	1248	0	0
50	little boys and girls employed in said weaving, at 3d. a day each, comes to 3l. 15s. per week, in the year	-	-	-	195	0	0
430							
	Oil and soap would cost in the year	-	-	-	368	0	0
	Carriage of wool, woollen goods, &c.	-	-	-	100	0	0
	Sorting wool, washing it, &c.	-	-	-	80	0	0
					8071	0	0
	The year's profit I suppose to be	-	-	-	350	0	0

The yearly sum brought into the country where such trade is carried on - - - - - £.8421 0 0

A VERY important information is to be drawn from this estimate, which is the proportion of labour to the wool in this manufactory.

Wool, at 16s.	-	-	-	4000
Combing	-	-	-	520
Spinning	-	-	-	1560
Weaving	-	-	-	1443
Sorting and carriage	-	-	-	180
Labour	-	-	-	3703
Oil and soap	-	-	-	368
				£.8071

HENCE therefore it appears that wool at 16s. labour and drugs equal it, and that labour alone is as nine one-fourth to ten.

LET me not forget here to remark, that the country, within two or three miles of Doneraile, ranks among the best I have seen in Ireland; it is varied, much improved, well wooded, and very chearful.

To Lord Doneraile's, to whom I am indebted for a variety of useful intelligence; the situation of his house is on a beautiful rising ground, which slopes down to a winding vale, in which is a small river, accompanied by wood; from this river, on the other side, the grounds (all lawn) rise very boldly, and are entirely margined with wood: from the higher grounds

grounds the view of the house and park is fine, especially at the gate, which opens to Kilbrack, there the house is seen surrounded by very noble woods and a great variety of cultivated inclosures intermixed with fields and thickly-planted hedges : the whole scene so pleasing, that it appeared to full advantage, though I had rode to it through a beautiful and even-dressed country in part of the way from Annsgrove. Near the house is a shrubbery, through which there are paths that lead to different parts of the farm, through new plantations, and in particular to a cottage, from whence there is a fine wooded scene, with the park lawn rising above it, scattered with single trees, and bounded by a margin of wood; the whole backed by distant mountains. The plantations and improvements which lead to and surround this cottage are the work of Lady Doneraile, and do credit to her taste.

RESPECTING his Lordship's husbandry the following particulars deserve the attention of the reader. Three years ago he procured ewes from Leicestershire, in order to improve the breed. The sheep which were here before took three to a stone of wool, but now only two, and the wool is to the full as good as ever; and he finds that they are much more thriving and advantageous to keep, and easier fed than the sheep of the country : sheep, his Lordship finds the most advantageous stock of all others : he keeps six to the acre winter and summer. This he finds much more profitable than keeping cows or fat cattle. Has tried many breeds of cattle, and finds that the long-horned english cow is the best for fattening. The Holdernefs for giving much thin poor milk, but are too heavy for winter feeding. The Kerry cow is much the best for milking in quantity of good milk. Hogs he has also tried of all sorts, and finds that nothing is so profitable as the black indian breed with short legs, round carcases, and snub noses. For working, he finds the small mongrel Kerry beast works the best, and moves the fastest. He works them all by the horns, in the manner practised in the south of France, four in a plough at the first ploughing. He changed the manner in which Lord Shannon brought it over, from the yoke which couples them, to going single with double traces; this he finds much the most beneficial manner; they move quicker and with greater power, from being free and working not in couples; besides being applicable to all sorts of work which requires their going single. English waggons Lord Doneraile has tried and laid aside, from finding, on experience, that they are very much inferior to the common irish car in hay harvest, dung, lime, &c. but he uses one-horse carts for many sorts of work. Turneps he has cultivated for some years, hoes them, and gets good crops, but best in the drill way, the rows two feet asunder : he uses them in feeding sheep, and also fattening beasts. He finds that they are not of any considerable use in this country, compared to others where there is not an equal plenty of grafs, which springs all winter; and
that

that they will fatten a beast better. When most wanted, which is in april and the beginning of may, they are gone. Cabbages he has tried upon a large scale three years; last year and the year before, he had 8 or 9 acres, and used them in feeding and fattening cattle and sheep; has found them preferable to turneps far, in all uses in feeding cattle; but an acre of the latter will produce much more. Fern he finds is best destroyed by mowing it twice a year in june, and the beginning of september. He makes his tillage exceedingly profitable by the use of lime. His course of crops

1. Wheat, yielding 10 barrels per acre, and has measured 15 barrels, 15 stone per acre. 2. Barley, the produce 14, 15 barrels, and of small barley, 6 rowed 20. 3. Oats 20 barrels. 4. Clover laid down to grafs, or for one year, and ploughed it up as soon as cleared of the hay.

LIME he spreads on all lands for wheat or barley, &c. 80 barrels of roach an acre costs 6d. a barrel burning. The effect is amazingly great, insomuch that it is the difference between a great and a bad crop. In general there is no ground worth 20s. an acre, that if you lime it 80 barrels, and take wheat, barley, and oats, it will then be worth 30s. This is certainly a marvellous improvement! Lord Doneraile knows, from an experiment of his brother's, that it is equally well adapted to boggy bottoms; he had five acres, which he set for 10s. 6d. the whole, and was so hard a bargain to the poor men, that an allowance was made for it. His brother took it, and limed it, and then mowed *five tons of hay per english acre*, one of the strongest proofs of the benefit of lime that can be given. In his Lordship's park he has a wheel for raising water, an improvement on the Persian, which raises a regular stream 28 feet; the stream which turns it is confined by a double wall to the exact dimension of the boxes, which take in the water, and it works constantly and regularly without trouble or expence. Lord Doneraile has erected a granary upon a new construction, that of a flue in the walls for a fire to air the whole building, and dry any damp corn that may happen to be in it. He dried the walls after building with it perfectly in a short time. This granary is so completely built, that not a mouse can possibly get in it: he has a thorough air, with lattice windows of wire. By the way, these flues are a proof, if one was wanting, how much moister the climate of Ireland is than that of England. He has planted the cluster potatoës, called here *bulls* and *bucks*, so much as 6 or 7 acres; gave them to horses, cows, and sheep: the horses that would eat them did well, and in a little time believes would all come very well to them. Fat cows and bullocks did exceedingly well: fat sheep were put to them; but several dying both years, made him leave the practice off. Of other sorts of potatoes, he finds the *London lady* and the *apple* to be the best sorts. The London lady is particularly valuable for one circumstance, which is the stalks withering, and the crop being ready to take up, from a month to six weeks before any other sort; consequently, the best sort to plant as a preparative to wheat. Hops he has planted two years ago, in order to see how far they will answer; and expects to be able to get not only good hops, but a great crop.

One

One mode of managing them he has in meditation, which is a good thought, and that is to train them horizontally instead of perpendicularly, like espalier, on account of the storms and blights which hops, in the common way, are subject to from the height. Has compared the rotten lime-stone and lime in a 20 aced field for wheat, 10 of the one and 10 of the other, and found the wheat equal: both very good. Has observed the common farmers, after manuring with it, to take 12 and 14 crops of white corn running; and then leaving it for grafs, which not coming, they complain that it is not good for grafs, but burns it up. But Lord Doneraile advised a friend to lay down, after two or three crops, which being done, the grafs that followed was perfectly fine.

LORD Doneraile's lime-kiln is one of the compleatest I have any where seen; it is at bottom 16 inches diameter, leads up to 12 feet wide in the buldge, and 20 feet high from the bottom to the buldge, 7 feet from the buldge up, and at the top 9 feet diameter. Over the top, a roof and a porch to it, and it draws 44 barrels of roach lime a day, which takes 6 of culm; burns for 5½d. a barrel. The culm 2s. 5d. a barrel at the kiln. Labour 4s. Culm 15s. a day.

SEPTEMBER 13th, left Doneraile, and went to Colonel Jephson's at Mallow. He was at that time confined with the gout; but his son, Denham Jephson, Esq; (member for Mallow) took every means for my information, in the circumstances I enquired after. About that place:

1. Potatoes on stubbles, or grafs dunged. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat or Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. The measure the english acre.

OF potatoes they plant 6 common barrels, and get 42 in the crop: sometimes take three or four successive ones. Of wheat they sow 3 pecks and a half each, 3 *cluggets*, each clugget 11 quarts, and get 8 barrels. The crop of bere is 12. Of oats 12. Rents of town parks 2l. 2s. to 3l. other lands 10s. to 30s. average 12s. There are many dairies, up to 60 cows, which are all set to dairymen, at 50s. to 3l. 10s. of good land it will take one acre and a half to feed a cow. They make both butter and cheese, and where the latter is made, no butter, selling the cheese at 4d. a pound. A cow makes one cwt. of butter in the season. When cows are let, none are taken that do not give 2 gallons of milk; good cows give 4 gallons. Colonel Jephson had a cow half bred, between the english long horned and Holderneffe, that was forced to be milked three times a day, and gave 12 gallons a day, many times in the presence of various persons. Every dairyman is allowed a house, a garden of one acre and a half, and grafs for a horse, a cow, and some a collop of sheep. Great quantities of lime are used; they lay 100 barrels an acre, at 1s. 1d. They plough with horses, four or six to a plough. The poor pay 10s. rent for a cabbin, and 20s. for one acre for potatoes; 2l. 2s. for grafs for a cow, and 10s. for the winter's hay. They live upon potatoes generally the
year

year through ; all of them keep cows and pigs, which latter they feed on small potatoes. Their circumstances are not better than 20 years ago ; for though they have now 6d. and then had but 5d. yet the rise is not proportioned to that of rents. Villages of cottars will take farms in partnership in the manner I have often described. The soil of the country is in general limestone ; but from Knockera mountain, near Mallow to Corke, there is no lime-stone.

LEASES are thirty-one years, or three lives, and some for three lives and thirty-one years after ; and many farms let to middle men, who occupy no part of the land themselves, but re-let it. Above one-third of the county is waste land.

THERE are collieries about ten miles off, near Kantark, from which coal is sold at 3s. a barrel, it is large and hard. Upon the river Black-water, there are tracts of flat land in some places one quarter of a mile broad ; the grass every where remarkably fine, and lets at 30s. It is the finest sandy land I have any where seen, of a reddish brown colour, would yield the greatest arable crops in the world, if in tillage ; it is five feet deep, and has such a principle of adhesion, that it burns into good brick, yet it is a perfect sand. In floods much of it is overflowed. The banks of this river, from its source to the sea, are equally remarkable for beauty of prospect, and fertility of soil.

THERE is but little manufacturing in Mallow ; even spinning is not general. Mr. Jephson manures his lands very highly with all sorts of dung and fullage of the streets of Mallow, which is constantly bringing away ; by means of this regular attention, united with the goodness of the soil, he has brought it into that high degree of heart, indicated by the rent, at which it would let. The whole is divided into fields, of a moderate size, with double quick hedges, well planted with trees, and kept in the most perfect degree of neatness ; between the hedges are gravel walks, so that there is a planted communication about all the fields ; the gates are neat and light, and every attention preserved to give the whole the appearance of a *ferme ornée*. The quantity of tillage is not considerable, but his crops very great, barley up to twenty barrels per acre. Mules he finds more useful and hardy than horses ; has some very fine ones. Mr. Jephson has weighed to the dragoons, at the barracks, from twenty-eight acres of grass, three and a quarter tons of hay, per English acre. He has kept a particular account of his domain, and has kept his deer, horses, cows, house, &c. and sold to the amount of 55s. an acre besides. I walked to the spring in the town to drink the water, to which so many people have long resorted ; it resembles that of Bristol, prescribed for the same cases, and with great success. In the season there are two assemblies a week. Lodgings are five shillings a week each room, and those seemed to be miserably bad. Board thirteen shillings a week. These prices,
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in so cheap a country, amazed me, and would, I should fear, prevent Mallow from being so considerable, as more reasonable rates might make it, unless accommodations proportionable were provided. There is a small canal, with walks on each side, leading to the spring, under cover of some very noble poplars. If a double row of good lodgings were erected here, with public rooms, in an elegant style, Mallow would probably become a place for amusement, as well as health.

SEPTEMBER 14th, to New Grove, the seat of Robert Gordon, Esq; in whom I met with the greatest zeal for giving me a correct information. Passing, at some distance, a very large house building, to the right of the road, in a good situation, by Sir Robert Dean. New Grove is an entire new improvement of Mr. Gordon's, the whole place, some years ago, being a waste moor, or mountain, as it is called in Ireland.

MR. Gordon took it for improvement; the soil and bog five to nine spits deep, and under it a black earth, or a reddish sand, and in some a whitish clayey substance, but not marle; many springs in it, which were carried off by drains; and then the whole surface of turf cut out, and carried to Cork; cutting, &c. 30s. a 100, and sold there at 5l. this was done in order to get lime, which is not upon the land, and by this means the lime came to seven-pence halfpenny a barrel; found many stones and great roots, and timbers, which were all cleared away, and the land ploughed with oxen, before winter; then left the winter three ploughings given in the spring, and fifty barrels of lime, spread and sown with oats and clover; the crop very great; could be sold however, for 4l. an acre; the clover fine. This was cut for hay, and the second weighed 231 lb per English perch square, and a horse that was starved nine hours, eat in twenty-four hours 107 lb. And after these two cuttings, there was a third for soiling with in october; it was then sowed with a second crop of oats, and that with clover which was left, and has been mown every year for eleven years since; this was one field in particular, but all in the same manner, and would let for one pound an acre readily; all expences of the 3 crops, including the lime, cost 6l. 7s. 9d. an acre, so that the mere improvement was profitable, besides the increase of rent also improved. At Carrick-duff, 650 acres of heath, &c. the black soil thin, and the heath low, and under it a brown loam, with whitish gravel, mixed. Fallowed it with strong ploughs, fourteen inches deep, for a year; then limed it, 50 barrels an acre, at seven pence three farthings on the land, burnt on the spot, and upon this sowed oats and clover for a meadow, the oats great, and the grass part of it actually let at 1l. 1s. and all would let so. Has prosecuted this improvement with such spirit, that last year he laid on 10,000 barrels of lime, and has 73 acres oats, 34 wheat, 12 potatoes, and 100 laid to grass, and all this in two years. Has there built a farm-office,

154 feet long, a barn, stalls for thirty bullocks, two stables, and a room for the steward; and has made 1750 perch of ditches, planted with quicks. These Mr. Gordon does in two years, half the ditch in one to leave it to sink, and the other half the year after. Turneps he has had, and got very fine crops of 6lb. the average turnep; they thin them by hand, which he thinks upon this land is preferable to hoeing; used the crop in stall-feeding 30 bullocks, which had, besides the turneps, half a hundred weight of hay to fix each day, and found that they throve exceedingly well on such turneps as were not above three to six pounds weight, but upon the large ones they did not thrive. In november he cleared the field of all, stacked them, and found them keep perfectly till april. Found that the sheep, fed at New Grove, would not take to turneps till starved to them. Imported a man from Norfolk, whom he gave forty guineas a year with board, who brought ploughs, hoes, &c. with him; gave him a guinea for every boy he taught to plough, and every boy who could fairly plough, had a shilling a day wages. By this means he has collected a set of excellent ploughmen, who have been of infinite use, so that he has to this day ploughed with Norfolk and Suffolk ploughs, worked with a pair of horses, and no driver except the first and second ploughing of fresh land, which, and dragging, he does with great drags of 18 cwt. and drawn by bullocks. This improvement is of particular consequence, as there are here twelve miles square of rich land, taken almost in a square between Mallow and Cork, one way, and the Bagra mountains and Nagles the other; upon all which there is not a stone to interrupt the plough, sometimes not a stone to an acre.

He is convinced, from experience, that the worst of this vast tract may be drained, inclosed, limed with fifty barrels, and tilled with a crop of oats on it, for 5l. an acre. In the neighbourhood, a great improvement of 1200 acres, without lime or gravel, and badly done yet, at 12s. an acre, six-7ths of the county of Cork at 2s. an acre, one-7th, 10s. of Kerry, nine-10ths, at 1s. and one-10th, at 10s.

Six years ago, Mr. Gordon established a linen manufactory, and bleach mill, upon the completest scale; a factory of eleven looms for damask, bleacher's house and other buildings, with a reservoir of water for turning the wheel; the whole well-built, well-contrived, and at the expence of 1200l. Kept these looms constantly at work, and at the same time bleached many pieces for the country people. Trusted to a manager for the conduct of the works, who broke, which put a stop to them, otherwise there would have been a flourishing manufactory established. Spinning flax coming in, but the woollen through the country; and from hence to the north-west Duhallow Barony is the great country for spinning cotton.

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 15th, to Blarney Castle, S. J. Jefferys, Esq; of whose great works in building a town at Blarney, I cannot give so particular an account as I wish to do; for I got there just as he and his family were on the point of setting out for France. I did not however let slip the time I had for making some enquiries, and found that in 1765, when Mr. Jefferys began to build this town, it consisted only of two or three mud cabins; there are now 90 houses. He first established the linen manufactory, building a bleach-mill, and houses for weavers, &c. and letting them to manufacturers from Cork, who have been so successful in their works, as to find it necessary to have larger and more numerous edifices, such as a large stamping mill for printing linens and cottons, to which is annexed another bleach mill, and since there has been a third erected; the work carried on is that of buying yarn, and weaving it into linens, ten pence to thirty pence white; also diapers, sheeting, ticking, and linens and cottons of all sorts printed here, for common use and furniture. These several branches of the linen, employ 130 looms, and above 300 hands.

ANOTHER of Mr. Jefferys's objects has been the stocking manufacture, which employs 20 frames, and 30 hands, in buildings erected by him; the manager employing, by covenant, a certain number of apprentices, in order by their being instructed, to diffuse the manufactory. Likewise a woollen manufactory, a mill for milling, tucking, &c. broad cloths; a gill mill for glossing, smoothing, and laying the grain; and a mill for knapping, which will dress above 500 pieces a year, but will be more, when some alterations now making are finished. A leather mill for dressing shamoy, buck, or skins, fully employed. A large bolting mill, just finished, and let for 132l. a year. A mill, annexed to the same, just finishing, for plating; and a blade mill for grinding edged tools. A large paper mill, which will be finished this year. He has been able to erect this multiplicity of mills, thirteen in all, by an uncommon command of water.

THE town is built in a square, composed of a large handsome inn, and manufacturers houses, all built of excellent stone, lime, and slate. A church, by the first fruits, and liberal addition of above 300l. from Mr. Jefferys. A market-house, in which are sold a hundred pounds worth of knit stockings per week. Four bridges, which he obtained from the county, and another (the flat arch) to which he contributed a considerable sum. Much has been done, yet is not the design near finished.

To shew the magnitude of these works, and the degree of public good resulting from them, I shall mention the expence at which they have been executed. Respecting the principal bleach mill, Messrs. Forest and Donoghue, under the linen act, took fifteen acres, at a guinea an acre, upon which they have expended 5000l. in erecting a linen mill and bleach green, twenty-five houses for twenty-five weavers families, four looms in

each house, a large dwelling-house for themselves or their director; in each house, a man, his wife, three apprentices, two girls and two boys, besides young infants. In a short time the farm was increased, and land, which before had only brought half a guinea, then let for a guinea. The linen board advanced 500*l.* to this work, and Mr. Jefferys repaid them 1400*l.* of the 5000*l.* The old rent of the premises was 40*l.* a year, the new rent 71*l.* Another bleach mill, which cost Mr. Jefferys 300*l.* to which the board added 300*l.* and the person to whom it is let, 600*l.* 40 acres of land, formerly let at 10*l.* a year, go with them. The whole rent now 80*l.* To this mill is since added an oat-mill, which cost 300*l.* two tuck-mills, 200*l.* a leather mill and kilns, 150*l.* two dwelling-houses, 300*l.* A stamping mill, which cost Mr. Jefferys 2,300*l.* to which the board added 300*l.* promising 1000*l.* more when the works should be finished, which they have been these two years. Twelve printing tables are kept going, and sixty-five hands employed. Twelve printers. Twelve tire boys. Three print cutters. Eighteen bleachmen. Six pencillers. Two tub-men. One clerk. One callender. One manager. Two draughtsmen. Four coppermen. Three carters. Besides the above sums, the manufacturer has laid out 500*l.* The quantity of land occupied is 25 acres: old rent, 6*l.* 10*s.* new, 113*l.* 15*s.*

A stocking factory, for which Mr. Jefferys lent 200*l.* The man laid out 300*l.* himself; he occupies 50 acres, before let at 20*l.* a year; now at 76*l.* 11*s.* A gigg-mill, for which Mr. Jefferys lent 300*l.* till repaid by the Dublin Society, who granted 300*l.* towards it, and the tenant laid out 200*l.* the quantity of land he has is eleven acres, let at 5*l.* 10*s.* now at 36*l.*

A manufactory of tape is established, by which means six acres of land are advanced, from 2*l.* 8*s.* to 9*l.* They have three looms going, which make 102 pieces a day of 36 yards each. The Dublin Society gave 20*l.* to it. A paper mill, which has cost Mr. Jefferys 1100*l.* and is not yet let. A bolting mill, on which he has expended 1100*l.* the tenant 500*l.* on adding an iron mill. Twenty acres of land, rent before, 9*l.* 10*s.* rent of the whole now 132*l.* 13*s.* The church has cost Mr. Jefferys 500*l.* and the first fruits 500*l.* more. The new inn, 250*l.* and the tenant 300*l.* more. Seventy acres of land before, at 20*l.* a year, now at 83*l.* 9*s.* A dwelling-house, 250*l.* to which the tenant added 500*l.* Ninety acres of land, before let at 54*l.* the new rent is 74*l.* Twelve cottages, and a lime-kiln, which cost 280*l.* Two dwelling-houses and a forge, which cost him 150*l.* and to which parliament granted 250*l.* more. Upon the whole, therefore, Mr. Jefferys has expended 7,630*l.* in these establishments. Of public money there has been added 2,170*l.* and the tenants themselves laid out 9,050*l.* in all, expended here 18,850*l.* besides what Mr. Jefferys laid out on bridges, &c. in the whole, very near, if not

not full, 20,000l. upon matters of a public nature. In all these establishments, he has avoided undertaking or carrying on any of the manufactures upon his own account, from a conviction that a gentleman can never do it without suffering very considerably. His object was to form a town, to give employment to the people, and to improve the value of his estate by so doing; in all which views it must be admitted, that the near neighbourhood of so considerable a place as Cork very much contributed: the same means which he has pursued would, in all situations, be probably the most adviseable, though the returns made might be less advantageous. Too much can scarcely be said in praise of the spirit with which a private gentleman has executed these works, which would undoubtedly do honour to the greatest fortune.

To animate others to tread in such laudable steps, I may remark, that even the profit of these undertakings is too much to be entirely forgotten; the expences are by no means barren ones; 327 acres let before these works at 167l. 18s. let afterwards at 682l. 8s. Profit 508l. 10s. without reckoning any thing for two dwelling-houses, a forge, twelve cottages, and a lime-kiln, which may moderately be reckoned at 25l. a year, and yet let at rents of favour, in all 533l. 10s. which from 7630l. is 7 per cent. There, however, is no agriculture improvement that would not, with much greater certainty of continuance, pay 17. At the same time, however, there is a greater reversionary advantage in the benefit resulting from the increasing of the rents at the expiration of the leases, upon undertaking these works, the longest of which is for no more than three lives. Another advantage which is felt already, is, the rise in the prices of products at Blarney, which is a direct premium to agriculture, to the farmer, and to the landlord. Dairy cows, on all the adjacent farms, arose in two years from 3l. to 4l. a cow, as the weavers were happy to get milk and butter at the same price it sold for in Cork: The same rise took place on corn, potatoes, &c. Mr. Jefferys, besides the above establishments, has very much improved Blarney Castle and its environs; he has formed an extensive ornamented ground, which is laid out with considerable taste; an extensive plantation surrounds a large piece of water, and walks lead through the whole; there are several very pretty sequestered spots where covered benches are placed.

ACCOMPANIED Mr. Jefferys, &c. to Dunkettle, the seat of Dominick Trent, Esq. who, with a liberality of sentiment which renders him deservedly esteemed, took every measure I could wish for my information. The road leads very beautifully on the side of the harbour under a shore of bold hills, on which are many villas and some plantations. For the following particulars concerning the neighbourhood, I am indebted to Mr. Trent.

ON the south side of the river, &c. the soil is a fine lime-stone; the country level for a mile or two, then swelling into very gentle hills. On the north side, which is much better planted, particularly at Lota, Dunkettle, &c. the ground rises in bold ascents, adorned with many beautifully-situated country-houses. Here the stratum is brown, or rather red stone, and the surface shallow; in some places a burning gravel. There is a good deal of arable land on the sides of the hills. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley or oats. 4. Lay down with feeds.

POTATOES yield per acre from 10l. to 20l. Average quantity fifty barrels, at eighteen stone each. Land manured and let to labourers for planting, at four or five guineas an acre. Wheat from seven to ten barrels of twenty stone, at 20s. a barrel; average price from 19s. to 24s. per barrel. The manures are Cork dung of the richest kind, especially in the slaughtering season; sea sand for tillage, and bank sand from the river for grass grounds. There is water-carriage to the eastward for many miles: several good quays for landing manure, particularly one at Glanmire, near Dunkettle, from which the inland inhabitants draw the manure four or five miles in one-horse carts. Lime is also much used at a shilling a barrel. The meadows in this country yield from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 tons of hay per acre, at 40s. to 45s. per ton on an average. Dairies are let to darymen at 4 to 5 guineas a cow. Many sheep are kept on the hills, but none folded. The diet of the poor is potatoes and milk, with some fish in the herring and sprat season. Labourers houses from 25s. to 40s. a year. Fuel, a very little coal, the rest supplied by bushes, stolen faggots, &c. as there is no turf in this part of the country. Price of labour 6d. per day through the year, on a pinch in harvest 8d. sometimes more, but within the liberties of the city generally 8d. Women 3d. and 4d. a day in reeking corn: children from 1d. to 3d. in picking stones, &c. Most employed in country business; a few at some bolting iron and paper-mills in the neighbourhood. From fourteen acres of orchard Mr. Trent makes sixty hogsheds a year of cyder; a clear acre of good trees about seven hogsheds. His hogs he feeds on the bull potatoes, which yield great crops without dung, and for two or three years successively.

SEPTEMBER 16th, to Cove by water, from Mr. Trent's quay. The view of Lota is charming; a fine rising lawn from the water, with noble spreading woods reaching on each side; the house a very pleasing front, with lawn shooting into the woods. The river forms a creek between two hills, one Lota, the other opening to another hill of inclosures well wooded. As the boat leaves the shore nothing can be finer than the view behind us; the back woods of Lota, the house and lawn, and the high bold inclosures towards Cork, form the finest shore imaginable, leading to Cork the city appearing in full view, Dunkettle wooded inclosures, a fine

a fine sweep of hill, joining Mr. Hoare's, at Factory-hill, whose woods have a beautiful effect. Dunkettle house almost lost in a wood. As we advance, the woods of Lota and Dunkettle unite in one fine mass. The sheet of water, the rising lawns, the house in the most beautiful situation imaginable, with more woods above it than lawns below it, the west shore of Loch Mahon, a very fine rising hill cut into inclosures, but without wood, landlocked on every side with high lands, scattered with inclosures, woods, seats, &c. with every cheerful circumstance of lively commerce, has all together a great effect. Advancing to Passage the shores are various, and the scenery enlivened by fourscore sail of large ships; the little port of Passage at the water's edge, with the hills rising boldly above it. The channel narrows between the great island and the hills of Passage. The shores bold, and the ships scattered about them, with the inclosures hanging behind the masts and yards, picturesque. Passing the streights a new basin of the harbour opens, surrounded with high lands. Monk's-town-castle on the hill to the right, and the grounds of Ballybricken, a beautiful intermixed scene of wood and lawn. The high shore of the harbour's mouth opens gradually. The whole scene is landlocked. The first view of Hawl-bowling-island and Spike-island, high rocky lands, with the channel opening to Cove, where are a fleet of ships at anchor, and Rostellan, Lord Inchiquin's house, backed with hills, a scenery that wants nothing but the accompaniment of wood. The view of Ballybricken changes; it now appears to be unfortunately cut into right lines. Arrived at the ship at Cove; in the evening returned, leaving Mr. Jefferys and family on board for a voyage to Havre, in their way to Paris.

DUNKETTLE is one of the most beautiful places I have seen in Ireland. It is a hill of some hundred acres broken into a great variety of ground, by gentle declivities, with every where an undulating outline, and the whole varied by a considerable quantity of wood, which in some places is thick enough to take the appearance of close groves, in others spreads into scattered thickets and a variety of single groups. This hill, or rather cluster of hills, is surrounded on one side by a reach of Cork harbour, over which it looks in the most advantageous manner; and on the other by an irignous vale, through which flows the river Glanmire: the opposite shore of that river has every variety that can unite to form pleasing landscapes for the views from Dunkettle grounds; in some places narrow glens, the bottoms of which are quite filled with water, and the steep banks covered with thick woods that spread a deep shade; in others the vale opens to form the site of a pretty cheerful village, overhung by hill and wood: here the shore rises gradually into large inclosures, which spread over the hills, stretching beyond each other; and there the vale melts again into a milder variety of fields. A hill thus situated, and consisting in itself of so much variety of surface,

face, must necessarily command many pleasing views; to enjoy these to the better advantage, Mr. Trent (than whom no one has a better taste both to discover and describe the beauties of natural scenes) is making a walk around the whole, which is to bend to the inequalities of the ground, so as to take the principal points in view. The whole is so beautiful, that if I was to make the regular detour, the description might be too minute: but there are some points which gave me so much pleasure, that I know not how to avoid recommending to others that travel this way to taste the same satisfaction: from the upper part of the orchard you look down a part of the river, where it opens into a regular basin, one corner stretching up to Cork, lost behind the hill of Lota, the lawn of which breaks on the swelling hills among the woods; the house obscured, and therefore seeming a part of your home scene; the losing the river behind the beautiful projection of Lota, is more pleasing than can be expressed. The other reach, leading to the harbour's mouth, is half hidden by the trees which margin the foot of the hill on which you stand: in front a noble range of cultivated hills, the inclosures broken by slight spots of wood, and prettily varied with houses, without being so crowded as to take off the rural effect. The scene is not only beautiful in those common circumstances which form a landscape, but is alive with the cheerfulness of ships and boats perpetually moving. Upon the whole, it is one of the most luxuriant prospects I have any where seen. Leaving the orchard pass on the brow of a hill which forms the bank of the river of Glanmire, commanding the opposite woods of Lota in all their beauty. Rise to the top of the high hill which joins the deer-park, and exhibits a scene equally extensive and beautiful; you look down on a vale which winds almost around at your feet, finishing to the left in Cork river, which here takes the appearance of a lake, bounded by wood and hills, and sunk in the bottom of a vale, in a style which painting cannot imitate; the opposite hills of Lota, wood, and lawn, seem formed as objects for this point of view: at your feet a hill rises out of the vale, with higher ones around it, the margins scattered wood; to the right, towards Riverstown, a vale; the whole backed by cultivated hills to Kallahan's field. Milder scenes follow; a bird's-eye view of a small vale sunk at your feet, through which the river flows; a bridge of several arches unites two parts of a beautiful village, the meadow grounds of which rise gently, a varied surface of wood and lawn, to the hills of Riverstown, the whole surrounded by delicious sweeps of cultivated hills. To the left, a wooded glen rising from the vale to the horizon, the scenery sequestered, but pleasing; the oak wood which hangs on the deer-park hill, an addition. Down to the brow of the hill, where it hangs over the river, a picturesque interesting spot. The inclosures on the opposite bank hang beautifully to the eye, and the wooded

[glen

glen winds up the hill. Returning to the house I was conducted to the hill, where the grounds slope off to the river of Cork, which opens to view in noble reaches of a magnitude that fills the eye and the imagination: a whole country of a character truly magnificent, and behind the winding vale which leads between a series of hills to Glanmire.

Pictures at Dunkettle.

A St. Michael, &c. the subject confused, by Michael Angelo. A St. Francis on wood, a large original of Guido. A St. Cecilia, original of Romanelli. An assumption of the virgin, by L. Carracci. A quaker's meeting, of above fifty figures, by Egbert Hemskerck. A sea view and rock piece, by Vernet. A small flagellation, by Sebastian del Piombo. A madonna and child, small, by Rubens. The crucifixion, many figures in miniature, excellent, tho' the master is unknown. An excellent copy of the famous Danae of Titian, at Monte Cavallo, near Naples, by Cioffi of Naples. Another of the Venus of Titian, at the tribuna in Florence. Another of Venus blinding Cupid, by Titian, at the Palazzo Borghese in Rome. Another of great merit of the madonna Della Sedia of Raphael, at the Palazzo Pitti in Florence, by Stirn, a german, lately at Rome. Another of an holy family, from Raphael, of which there are said to be three originals, one at the king's palace in Naples, one in the *palais royal* in Paris, and the third in the collection of Lord Exeter, lately purchased at Rome. A portrait of Sir Patrick Trent, by Sir P. Lely. An excellent portrait of a person unknown, by Dahl.

SEPTEMBER 17th, to Castlemartyr, the seat of the earl of Shannon, one of the most distinguished improvers in Ireland, in whom I found the most earnest desire to give me every species of information, with a knowledge and ability which enabled him to do it most effectually. Passed through Middleton, a well-built place, which belongs to the noble lord to whom it gives title. Castlemartyr is an old house, but much added to by the present earl; he has built, besides other room, a dining one 32 feet long by 22 broad, and a drawing one, the best rooms I have seen in Ireland, a double cube of 25 feet, being 50 long, 25 broad, and 25 high. The grounds about the house are very well laid out; much wood well grown, considerable lawns, a river made to wind through them in a beautiful manner, an old castle so perfectly covered with ivy as to be a picturesque object. A winding walk leads for a considerable distance along the banks of this river, and presents several pleasing landscapes. But let me hasten to objects of more importance: Lord Shannon's husbandry consists of many circumstances. I shall begin with

TURNEPS.

WHICH Lord Shannon has cultivated upon a very large scale, as will appear from the following particulars. His father began the culture many years ago, which he continued till 1770, and then went largely into it. He had every year, from 1770, to 1774 both inclusive, sixteen acres, and in 1775, twenty-four. Has cultivated them in both broad cast and the drill method the rows at three feet; but finding that the roots became too large, altered his method to eighteen inches, in order to have more of them; the size will be seen by the following account.

Castlemartyr, December 21st, 1771.

I THIS day measured a square perch of turneps, $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet, drilled in rows three feet apart; there were 84 turneps on this perch, they weighed 7 cwt. 2 qrs. which I compute to be 60 tuns to the english acre; and there were vacant spaces in the rows within this perch where the turneps had failed, that would have held at least ten large turneps more. I then pulled 84 turneps, the largest I could see, within about fifteen yards of the above perch, and they weighed 15 cwt. 15 qrs. 17 lb. which is about 125 ton, 29 cwt. 20 lb. I weighed two of the above turneps separately, one of them a white tankard, they each weighed 32 lb. The white Norfolk was three feet eight inches in circumference. N. B. I neither manured nor burned the ground; it was naturally good; I tilled it well, and hoed the crop carefully.

SHANNON.

ONE of the above turneps Lord Shannon took with him to the Dublin Society, where it was seen by the whole city; but from my tour through the kingdom, I am afraid it did not animate so many as it ought. These large turneps were not raised in any peculiar spot, but were part of a field of eight or ten acres. The application of the crop has been generally by drawing and giving them to sheep on dry pastures; all sorts of sheep, but particularly fat ewes, they fattened admirably. Finds that the great benefit of the culture is having them near a very dry field, in order to manage them as above-mentioned. He has found that they will do exceedingly well without manuring, especially if the land is an old rough pasture, or which wants to be broken up; fallowed well and thoroughly ploughed, produces great crops. Sea weed his lordship has tried for them, spread about the thickness of dung, and it gave prodigious products. Upon the whole, he is clearly of opinion, that nothing can be more beneficial to the agriculture of Ireland than introducing this culture, and so well convinced of this, that he has always shewn his crops to farmers, weighed them before them, shewed the cattle fed, and took every pains to make them come into the culture, but

in vain. As a preparation of corn they are incomparable ; he has had very great crops of barley after them, such as were laid with every heavy rain from luxuriance. Wheat also he has sown after them, and got eight barrels an acre from seven stone of seed.

C A B B A G E S

LORD Shannon cultivated also : generally had five or six acres for four or five years ; the sort the flat dutch, and got very fine crops. Gave them to cattle of all sorts, who eat them very greedily, and did better upon them than upon turneps, but would not last longer than christmas, otherwise would have preferred them. The crops of corn after them neither better nor worse than after turneps. Tried also the scotch and other sorts, but preferred the flat dutch to any other. One great objection to both cabbages and turneps is the mildness of the season in Ireland, which is so great as to burst the cabbages, and make the turneps run to seed before their time. As to the grass springing so fast in winter, as to prevent the necessity of the culture, he does not find it. Cabbages must be well manured for.

P O T A T O E S.

LORD Shannon planted eighteen acres of potatoes with the plough, manuring only the furrows ; horse and hand hoed them perfectly, to keep them free from weeds ; did it twice, and purposed oftener, but the growth of the crop was so luxuriant that neither the horse nor hoe could get through them. Took them up with the plough, and the crop proved exceedingly good, far better than they would have been in the common method.

D R I L L H U S B A N D R Y.

LORD Shannon's expression of this mode to me was excellent, *I read myself into it and worked myself out of it.* He tried it with wheat, horse and hand-hoeing it perfectly, and got a very fine crop ; an unexceptionable one for the mode, but the produce was not equal to the common way, while the expence, trouble, and attention, were endless, so that he was convinced, even by his success, that it could not be a beneficial mode of culture. For turneps also he prefers very much the broad-cast mode, and never began the drill method but as an ease of hoeing.

S O I L I N G.

SOILING horses, &c. in summer, with grass mown every day, Lord Shannon has practised greatly, and finds it highly beneficial, and particularly for raising great quantities of dung.

S E A - S A N D A N D L I M E.

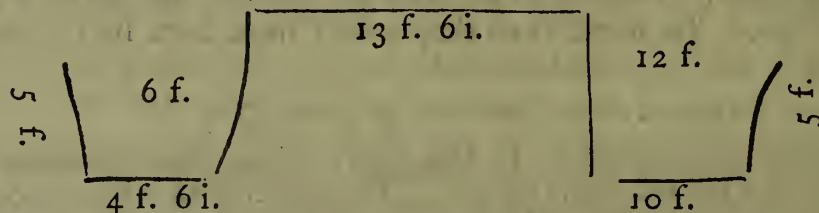
THE manures which Lord Shannon uses are sea-sand and lime. He prefers the latter for brown flaty stone land, and sand for lime-stone land: has used great quantities of it, though four to six miles from the sea. In one month he has brought 6719 barrels of it, at 5d. a barrel; or 139l. 19s. 9½d. for 67 acres, at 100 barrels an acre, and afterwards 50 more for a second dressing: the effect of it is very great, particularly in bringing daisies (*bellis*) on very poor land, and white clover when laid on good grass lands. If a bag breaks, and some accidentally falls on a waste, the man gathers it up as clear as he can, yet it is sure to bring a patch of white clover. Lime his lordship burns in a long-necked kiln, which he finds to answer so well, that one barrel of culm burns ten of lime. He lets the kiln, and buys the lime at 1s. 4d. a barrel. Draws 26 barrels a day. The culm 4s. a barrel. The labourers hire 1d. a barrel, for quarrying, breaking, and burning.

B O U N T I E S.

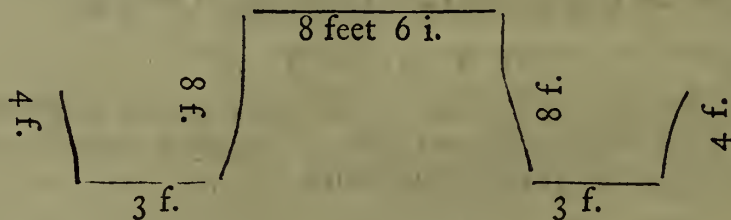
LORD Shannon's bounties to labourers amount to 50l. a year. He gives them by way of encouragement; but only to such as can speak english, and do something more than fill a cart.

D I T C H E S.

HIS lordship has made some ditches of an extraordinary dimension; the following segment:



The center of 13 feet 6 inches, is a terrace between two ditches, broad enough to plant a hedge on each side of it, and have a riding between them: it is most completely done, and will answer the double purpose perfectly. He is also doing a good deal in the following dimensions:



which

which costs a shilling a perch, a double row of quick, and a walk or ride between.

L I N E N M A N U F A C T O R Y.

LORD Shannon established a factory at Cloghnickelty, in the year 1769, a bleach yard of seventeen acres of land, with mills, &c. for bleaching the pieces that are wove in the neighbourhood. There are 94 looms at work in the town, 100 l. a week laid out in yarn, and at three fairs, 1800 l. the amount of which is 7000 l. a year; the cloth chiefly coarse: and this establishment has had great effect in increasing the manufactures in the neighbourhood.

C O M P O S T S.

HE is exceedingly attentive in forming composts. A river runs through Castlemartyr, part of which is often full of sand and mud; this he empties periodically and mixes it with lime. In one field I saw larger compost heaps of these materials, than I remember any where else to have observed; one of these was 105 yards long, nine broad, and four feet high, containing cubical yards

	-	-	-	1260
Another, 78 and 8 broad, and 4 feet high	-	-	-	832
Another, 155 by 5, and 4 feet high	-	-	-	1033
Another, 76 by 5, and 4 feet high	-	-	-	506
Total	-	-	-	3631

Among these hills were 2000 barrels, or 8000 bushels of lime mixed: after this it is needless to say, that he manures his land with uncommon spirit.

W A S T E L A N D.

HIS Lordship has reclaimed 109 acres of furze land, which he has eradicated, and brought to a very profitable soil.

W A L L I N G.

LORD Shannon has inclosed 380 acres with a most excellent wall, eight feet and a half high under the coping, and 8 inches above it. The wall is two feet thick at bottom, and 18 inches at top, and costs 4 s. per perch, or 11. 16s. running measure.

B A R N.

THE best built barn I have seen in Ireland, is at Castle Martyr. The bays and threshing floor are fourteen feet high, and over them are two stories for granaries, the first eight feet two inches high, and the upper one eight feet nine inches, besides the roof, with a door in the center of the floors, and a wheel for winding sacks up. It is built in such a manner,

manner, the doors, &c. so plated every where at the edges with iron, that it is impossible a mouse should get in or out ; or that a rat should any where gnaw his way in. Upon clearing it last year, about twenty mice were found, that had been carried in in the sheafs, a little straw was laid for them in a corner, and the barn shut for a fortnight, at the end of which time they were found alive, and killed, not one being able to escape. I have seen very fine barns built in England, on cap stones, into which no vermin could get, unless carried in, but when they were carried in, they had a million of ways to get out.

BULLOCKS DRAWN BY THE HORNS.

LORD Shannon upon going into tillage, found that the expence of horses was so great, that it eat up all the profit of the farm ; which made him determine to use bullocks ; he did it in the common method of yokes and bows, but they performed so indifferently, and with such manifest uneasiness, that he imported the french method of drawing by the horns ; and in order to do this effectually, he wrote to a person at Bourdeaux to hire him a man who was practiced in that method. Upon the correspondent being applied to, he represented difficulties attending it, the man who was spoken to having been in Germany for the same purpose. Upon which Lord Shannon gave directions that every thing should be bought and sent over which the labourer wished to bring with him. According, a bullock of the best sort, that had been worked three years, was purchased ; also a hay-cart, a plough, harrows, and all the tackle for harnessing them by the horns, which, with the man, were sent over. His salary was to be 400 livres a year, with board, &c. The bullock, 218 livres ; tackle for two bullocks, 36. Two carts, 314. A plough and harrow, 123, which, with other expences, came to 451. 17s. and freight 161. 16s. Upon the whole, the experiment cost, from first to last, to bring it thoroughly to bear, about an hundred pounds. His Lordship is persuaded, that the first year of his introducing it at large on his farm, saved him the whole. He has pursued the method ever since, and with the greatest success. He finds the bullocks so perfectly at their ease, that it is a pleasure to see them ; for first breaking up lays, and for cross ploughing, he uses four, but in all succeeding earths, only two ; nor more for the first ploughing of stubbles : I saw six ploughs doing this in a wheat stubble, and they did it five or six inches deep with great ease. Upon first introducing it, there was a combination among all his men against the practice, but Lord Shannon was determined to carry his point ; in this matter, he followed a course that had all imaginable success : one lively sensible boy took to the oxen, and worked them readily. His Lordship at once advanced this boy to eight pence a day : this did the business at once ; others followed the example, and since that he has had numbers who could
manage

manage them, and plough as well as the frenchman. They plough an acre a day with ease; and carry very great loads of corn and hay, coals, &c. Four bullocks in the french cart brought twelve barrels of coals, ship measure, each 5 cwt. or three tons, but the tackle of the fore couple breaking, the other two drew the load above a mile to a forge. Two of them drew 35 cwt. of flag stone, three miles with ease; but Lord Shannon does not in common work them in this manner, three tons he thinks a proper load for four bullocks. Upon the bailiff, Mr. Bere, mentioning loads drawn by these oxen, that appeared to me most extraordinarily great, I expressed many doubts, his Lordship immediately ordered the french harvest cart to be loaded half a mile from the reeks; it was done; 1020 sheafs of wheat were laid on it, and two oxen drew it without difficulty; we then weighed forty sheafs, the weight 251 lb. at which rate the 1020 came to 6375 lb. or above three tons, which is a vast weight for two oxen to draw; I am very much in doubt whether in yoaks they would have stirred the cart so loaded.

LORD Shannon has an excellent way of managing all his cattle in one circumstance, which is to mark them on the horn with numbers, and keeps a book ruled in columns, and engraved, by which means, on turning to the number, he sees every particular of the beast, which are inserted in the columns. He trains them for work at three to four years old, gently breaking them in at once, without any difficulty.

THE common husbandry about Castle Martyr, will be seen from the following account, for which particulars I am obliged to the attention of this patriotic nobleman, who took every method to have me well informed. Farms rise from one hundred to three hundred acres, but some to one thousand, of which size Lord Middleton has one. Farms not taken in partnership so much as in other parts; two or three will take a farm of thirty or forty acres, but it is not general. The soil is various; the vale, from Carricktowel to Killay, of ten or twelve miles long, and four over, is of lime-stone; the hills are brown stone; the loam upon it is from three inches to eight feet, strong, rich and good; dry in winter, and good turnep land. These lime-stone rocks are full of cavities, and subterraneous passages, so that if you cut a drain to carry water off, and touch upon a lime-stone rock, probably all will find its way. Rent of the barony of Imokilly, on an average, twelve shillings an acre; Kilnatalton, eight shillings. A third part of the county is waste land, the price of which is risen extremely in a few years; rent, one shilling; the rest of the county, eight shillings. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes, upon clay ground, dunged and ploughed at 3 l. plant fix barrels at two and a half cwt. produce 50 to 100 barrels; potatoes sell 2s. to 4s. a barrel.

2. Wheat,

2. Wheat, sow twelve stone, produce five barrels.
3. Oats, on one ploughing, sow a barrel of fourteen stone, crop eight barrels. Some poor people take one or two more crops of oats.
4. Lay out for grafs from two to twelve years. They sometimes burn for potatoes, especially on the absentee estates, and get as good crops, as in the other way.

Expence of an acre of potatoes.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Seed	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	18	0
Planting and trenching, forty days of a man	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Taking up, and carrying home, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Tythe	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0
							<hr/>		
							£. 6	4	0
							<hr/>		

P R O D U C E.

Seventy barrels, at 3s.	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	0
							<hr/>	
Profit	-	-	-	-	-	£. 4	6	0
							<hr/>	

A dispute arising upon the produce of potatoes, Lord Shannon ordered some spades square (each $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet) to be taken up, and weighed them; the weight, on an average, 19 lb. per spade, or 108 barrels per acre, each 252 lb. that is, 12 weights to the barrel, each 21 lb. These were his own potatoes, and not an extra crop at all. Barley is sometimes put in instead of oats, and bere instead of wheat. A crop of bere produces 10 barrels; barley yields 8. No turneps or rape. A few of the better farmers sow clover, but the number very inconsiderable. Flax is sown by few of the common people in patches. Paring and burning is called graffing, and burning is practised by the common farmers, upon such estates as their landlords will permit. They manure with sea sand for corn, and sea weed for potatoes; they will carry them three miles from the sea: all make composts of sand and earth. Dairies are numerous, from twenty to fifty cows set at 3l. a cow. The dairyman has his privilege, which is an acre of land for every ten cows, a good house and dairy; a collop for every 10 cows, and will keep 8 or 10 pigs. If not paid in money, it is one cwt. of butter and 12s. in money. A cow that gives two gallons a day the dairyman cannot reject: it will take three acres to a cow, but privilege and all is four acres. Very few flocks in this country; Mr Robert Fitzgerald has 1000 to 1500: but the number too few to be worth mentioning. The poor people all keep a collop or two of sheep, with which they cloath themselves. They plough generally

rally with four horses, sow with two, and use ploughs of so bad a construction, that a man attends them with a strong stick leaning on the beam to keep it in the ground.

LAND sells at twenty-five years purchase. Rents have not fallen; for very little of it is let at more than its value. Tythes are every where valued by the proctor by the acre. No emigrations from the county of Corke. The religion is almost universally catholic. Building a common cabbin 5l. two of stone, &c. for 3l. 10s. They carry half a barrel of sea sand on horseback, fourteen miles from Corke to the mountains of Barmore, and to Mr. Coppinger's, twenty-four miles, and it improves much for tillage: but it is carried when not to mountains in cars: it is not found to be so good as lime.

THERE is a woollen trade at Castle Martyr: Mr. James Pratt in particular buys wool in Tipperary and at Ballynasloe. The best is the Connaught; it is the finest, and is short; the longest is in the county of Carlow and Tipperary. In Carlow they keep the sheep fattening a year longer, after buying in Tipperary. Tipperary wool 5 lb. Carlow 6 lb. Connaught 4½ lb. In sorting, the fine belly wool is separated, the finer will make cloth of 10s. or 12s. a yard. The back and sides are laid by for combing, the other is carded; about four fifths of the fleece is combed. Combs in his own house, employing 16 to 20 hands; pays them by the ball, 3d. each of 24 oz. and they earn 8s. a week; these balls are given out to the poor people to spin, employing above a thousand spinners. They spin a ball from 11 to 13 skain in four days, attending their family besides. The value is 2s. 8d. per ball: are paid 9d. a ball. In this way of doing it there are not many tricks, being in general very honest. For 11 skains, 8d.—12—9d.—13—10d.—14—11d. They are sorted and packed in packs of 180 balls, which sell at 30l. a pack. It was never known to be higher than last year; twenty years ago it was 25l. a pack, about a fourth of what is spun in this part of the kingdom, is worked up at home. The trade has been a rising one for two years.

EDWARD Roche, Esq; of Kildining, gave me, at Castle Martyr, the following account of some improvements he has made. Has done 250 acres of mountain, and began upon 50 of bog; the former with paring and burning with ploughs, at 7s. and cutting and burning, 5s. 6d. in June and July. Limes with the ashes, 50 barrels per acre, at 47 gallons, or 75, at 5d. Spread and plough in April or May; then set to poor people, at 30s. an acre. They trench in potatoes in the common way, get on an average sixty barrels, then trench in rye or black oats, six men to an acre; crops six barrels of rye, 20 stone per barrel, at 7s. or 8s. and black oats, 10 kilderkins, at 11 stone; then white oats, 8 barrels, sow grass seeds one barrel, with them; and 8 lb. white clover, and 2 lb. rib-grass. The land before not 60s. an acre,

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could let it now at 7s. Ploughs with six bullocks first, and four afterwards. Potatoe stalks he carries to his pound, but in general are left in heaps in the field, and are a nuisance to ploughing. In Wicklow, they bleed their horses and cows, and mix the blood with meal for food.

FROM Castle Martyr, september 20, to Castle Mary, the seat of — Longfield, Esq; who keeps a great quantity of land in his hands. Has cultivated the potatoes, called here bulls, that is, the english *cluster*, very much for cattle, but nobody will eat them; he has from six to eleven acres yearly: plants them in the common manner, and gets 120 barrels an acre, of 20 stone each. I saw a spade of five feet and a half square, dug the produce 23 lb. on very poor land. On sand and sea weed the same space of London ladies, weighed 27 lb. Manures for them with sea sand and weed, but not with dung; gives them to his horses and bullocks: and when he gives his horses potatoes, they have no oats. It is surprizing to see how fond horses are of them; they do very well on them raw, but the best way is to boil them, as they will then fatten the horses. The bullocks are equally fond of them, and will follow him to eat them out of his hand. Sheep are the same, and will get into the fields to scrape them up: upon the whole, Mr. Longfield is persuaded that no root or crop in the world is more beneficial to a farmer than this potatoe, so that he should have continued in turneps, which he has cultivated largely but has found this root so perfectly useful, that he has experienced the absolute dependence which may be placed on them for winter provision of all sorts. And what is of infinite consequence, the culture may be extended to what quantity you please, without the assistance of dung, without which other potatoes cannot be managed.

MR. Longfield established the linen manufacture here three years ago, by building a bleach mill and bleach green; he has 14 looms constantly at work upon his own account, who are paid for what they manufacture by the yard. The sort generally made is from 900 to 1400, and makes 650 pieces of 25 yards length, annually; sells, at present, from 23s. to 30s. a piece. The factory employs 50 hands; bleaches great quantities for the poor people. A great many weavers are scattered about the country, who bring their webs, &c. to be bleached here. The flax is raised, and the yarn spun at Clanikilty and Ross, &c. in the west of the county. No woollen manufacture is carried on in this country. Mr. Longfield has always ploughed with oxen, which he has found far more advantageous than horses. Clover he has cultivated long with very great success, and finds it highly beneficial. The county of Cork two-thirds waste, at a very low or no rate, the other third at 15s.

SEPTEMBER 21st to Rostellan, the seat of Lord Inchiquin, commanding a beautiful view of Corke harbour, the ships at Cove, the great island,
and

and the two others which guard the opening of the harbour. It appears here a noble basin of several miles extent, surrounded with high grounds, which want no other addition but woods. This view is seen in great perfection from the windows of two very good rooms, 25 by 35, which his Lordship has built in addition to the old castle.

FROM Rostellan to Lota, the seat of Frederick Rogers, Esq; I had before seen it in the highest perfection from the water going from Dunkettle to Cove, and from the grounds of Dunkettle. Mrs. Rogers was so obliging as to shew me the back grounds, which are admirably wooded, and of a fine varied surface.

Got to Corke in the evening, and waited on the Dean, who received me with the most flattering attention. Corke is one of the most populous places I have ever been in; it was market-day, and I could scarce drive through the streets, they were so amazingly thronged: on the other days, the number is very great. I should suppose it must resemble a Dutch town, for there are many canals in the streets, with quays before the houses. The best built part is Morrison's Island, which promises well; the old part of the town is very close and dirty. As to its commerce, the following particulars I owe to Robert Gordon, Esq; the surveyor-general.

Average of nineteen years export, ending march 24, 1773.

Hides, at 1l. each	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64,000
Bay and woollen yarn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	294,000
Butter, at 3os. per cwt. from 56s. to 72s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	180,000
Beef, at 2os. a barrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	291,970
Camblets, ferges, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40,000
Candles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,220
Soap	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000
Tallow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,000
Herrings, 18 to 35,000l. all their own	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,000
Glue, 20 to 25,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,000
Pork	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64,000
Wool to England	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,000
Small exports, Gottenburgh herrings, horns, hoofs, &c. feather-								
beds, palliasses, feathers, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,000
								<hr/>
								£. 1,100,190

Average prices of the 19 years on the custom books. All exports on those books are rated at the value of the reign of Charles the Second; but the im-
M m 2 ports

ports have always 10 per cent. on the sworn price added to them. Seventy to eighty sail of ships belong to Corke. Average of ships that entered that port in those 19 years, 872 per annum. The number of people at Corke mustered by the clergy, by hearth-money, and by the number of houses, payments to minister, average of the three, 67,000 souls, if taken before the 1st of September, after that 20,000 increased. There are 700 coopers in the town. Barrels, all of oak or beech, all from America: the latter for herrings, now from Gottenburgh and Norway. The excise of Corke now no more than in Charles the Second's reign. Ridiculous!

Cork old duties, in 1751, produced - - - - 62,000

Now the same - - - - £. 140,000

Bullocks 16,000 head, 32,000 barrels; 41,000 hogs, 20,000 barrels. Butter 22,000. Firkins of half a hundred weight each, both increase this year, the whole being

240,000 firkins of butter

120,000 barrels beef.

Export of woollen yarn from Corke, 300,000l. a year in the irish market. No wool smuggled, or at least very little. The wool comes to Corke, &c. and is delivered out to combers, who make it into balls. These balls are bought up by the french agents at a vast price, and exported; but even this does not amount to 40,000l. a year.

PRICES.

Beef, 21s. per cwt. never so high by 2s. 6d. Pork, 30s. never higher than 18s. 6d. owing to the army demand. Slaughter dung, 8d. for a horse-load. Country labourer 6d. about town 10d. Milk 7 pints a penny. Coals 3s. 8d. to 5s. a barrel, 6 of which make a ton. Eggs 4 a penny.

CORKE labourers. Cellar ones 20,000; have 1s. 1d. a day, and as much bread, beef, and beer, as they can eat and drink, and 7 lb. of offals a week for their families. Rent for their house, 40s. Mason and Carpenters labourers 10d. a day. Sailors, now, 3l. a month and ship provisions: before the american war, 28s. Porters and coal-heavers paid by the great. State of the poor people in general incomparably better off than they were 20 years ago. There are imported 18,000 barrels annually of scotch herrings, at 18s. a barrel. The salt for the beef trade comes from Lisbon, St. Ube's, &c. The salt for the fish trade from Rochelle: for butter english and irish.

PARTICULARS of the woollen fabriicks of the county of Corke received from a manufacturer. The woollen trade, ferges and camblets, ratteens, frizes, druggets, and narrow cloths, the last they make to 10s. and 12s. a yard; if they might export to 8s. they are very clear that they could get a great trade for the woollen manufacturers of Corke; the wool comes from Galway and Roscommon, combed here by combers, who earn 8s.

to

to 10s. a week, into balls of 24 ounces, which is spun into worsteds, of twelve skains to the ball, and exported to Yarmouth for Norwich; the export price, 30l. a pack, to 33l. never before so high; average of them 26l. to 30l. Some they work up at home into serges, stuffs, and camblets; the serges at 12d. a yard, 34 inches wide; the stuffs sixteen inches, at 18d. the camblets at nine-pence halfpenny to thirteen pence; The spinners at nine-pence a ball, one in a week; or a ball and half twelve-pence a week, and attend the family besides; this is done most in Waterford and Kerry, particularly near Killarny; the weavers earn 1s. a day on an average. Full three-fourths of the wool is exported in yarn, and only one-fourth worth worked up. Half the wool of Ireland is combed in the county of Corke.

A very great manufacture of ratteens at Carric-on-sure, the bay worsted is for serges, shalloons, &c. Woollen yarn for coarse cloths, which latter have been lost for some years, owing to the high price of wool. The bay export has declined since 1770, which declension is owing to the high price of wool.

No wool smuggled, not even from Kerry, not a sloop's cargo in twenty years, the price too high; the declension has been considerable. For every 86 packs that are exported, a licence from the Lord Lieutenant, for which 20l. is paid.

FROM the act of the last sessions of Great Britain for exporting woollen goods for the troops in the pay of Ireland, Mr. Abraham Lane, of Corke, established a new manufacture of army cloathing for that purpose, which is the first at Corke, and pays 40l. a week in labour only. Upon the whole there has been no increase of woollen manufacture within 20 years. Is clearly of opinion that many fabricks might be worked up here much cheaper than in France, of cloths that the french have beat the english out of; these are, particularly, broad-cloths of one yard and half-yard wide, from 3s. to 6s. 6d. a yard for the Levant trade. Frizes which is now supplied from Carcassone in Languedoc. Frizes of 24 to 27 inches, at 10d. to 13d. a yard. Flannels, 27 to 36, from 7d. to 14d. Serges of 27 to 36 inches, at 7d. to 12d. a yard; these would work up the coarse wool. At Ballynasloe fair, in July, 200,000l. a year bought in wool. There is a manufactory of knit-stocking by the common women about Corke, for eight or ten miles around; the yarn from 12d. to 18d. a pair, and the worsted, from 16d. to 20d. and earn from 12d. to 18d. a week. Besides their own consumption, great quantities are sent to the north of Ireland.

ALL the weavers in the country are confined to towns, have no land, but small gardens. Bandle or narrow linen, for home consumption, is made in the western part of the county. Generally speaking, the circumstances of all the manufacturing poor are better than they were twenty years ago. The manufactures have not declined, though the exportation has,
owing

owing to the increased home consumptions. Bandon was once the seat of the stuff, camblet, and shag manufacture, but has in seven years declined above three-fourths. Have changed it for the manufacture of coarse green linens, for the London market, from 6d. to 9d. a yard, 27 inches wide; but the number of manufacturers in general much lessened.

SEPTEMBER 22d, left Corke, and proceeded to Coolmore, the seat of the Rev. Archdeacon Oliver, who is the capital farmer of all this neighbourhood; no person could be more desirous of procuring me the information I wished, nor any more able to give it me. Mr. Oliver began the culture of turneps four years ago, and found them so profitable that he has every year had a field of them in the broad-cast method, and well hoed. This year they are exceedingly fine, clean, and well hoed, so that they would be no disgrace to a Norfolk farmer. This is the great object wanting in irish tillage; a gentleman, therefore, who makes so considerable a progress in it, acts in a manner the most deserving praise that the whole circle of his husbandry will admit. Mr. Oliver has usually drawn his crops for sheep and black cattle; for the former he has spread them upon grass fields to their very great improvement; and the cattle have had them given in stalls. All sorts have done perfectly well on them, insomuch that he is fully convinced of their great importance: he has found that they support the cattle much better than any thing else, to such a degree of superiority, he is determined never to be without a crop. He has always dunged for them, except when he has ploughed up a grass lay, and then he has found it not necessary.

In bringing in furzy waste land he has improved very extensively. One instance in particular I shall mention, because it is the best preparation for laying land to grass that I have met with in Ireland: he first dug it and put in potatoes, no manure, the crop middling; and after that cleared it of stones, which were in great numbers, and sowed turneps, of which crop the following are the particulars.

“In november 1771, the rev. Archdeacon John Oliver (at his residence in the county of Corke) began to cultivate a field for turneps and cabbages; the field contained about 40 english acres, but was so full of rocks that only about ten or eleven plantation acres could be tilled, the remainder being a lime-stone quarry; the surface in the part tilled, in general, not above four inches deep, and in the deepest part not above twelve inches over the lime-stone quarry; this ground was planted with potatoes the spring preceding, without any manure, and all done with the spade, and in many parts there was not sufficient covering for them. The ploughing for turneps and cabbages was finished the latter end of december; it remained in that state till the month of march following (1772), when a large quantity of stones were taken out with crows and spades; it was then ploughed a second time; then harrowed with very strong harrows

harrows made on purpose; about the latter end of may it was rolled with a wooden roller; on the 11th, 12th, and 13th of june, it was sowed with about one pound and a quarter of seeds to the english acre. When the turneps were in four leaves there appeared more fern and potatoes than turneps, which were weeded out by hand, at a great expence; and in about three weeks after, when the turneps began to bottom, they got a second weeding as before, after which they were again thinned by hand; these different operations were continued till the turneps were about a pound weight, and then they were thinned again, and weeded as often as there was occasion, and now it is imagined they are as great a crop as any in the kingdom, some thousands weighing fourteen pounds per turnep. Part of the same field is sowed in drills, thinned and weeded as the other, but they are not equal to the broad cast, but are a very good crop. Another part of the same field is planted with 20,300 cabbages of different kinds, namely, the flat dutch, borecole, large late dutch cabbage, turnep cabbage, and large scotch cabbage, at three feet between each drill, and two feet in the rows, which is at least one foot too near in the drills, and half a foot in the rows, as they now touch one another this 13th of october. All the said cabbages and turneps were cultivated with the plough, and the cabbages hoed with the garden hoes, and manured mostly with rotten dung; part with horse-dung, not half rotten, from the stable; part with cow-dung, not rotten; part with sea-slob and lime mixed; all which manures answer very well. One small part of the field where the cabbages were planted, was broke from the lay last march, got six ploughings and five harrowings; another part four ploughings and three harrowings.

THE quantity of ground under turneps is	-	8 a. 1 r. 10 p.
Under cabbages	- -	2 a. 1 r. 10 p.

THE turnep ground got no manure of any kind, nor was it burned.

THE foregoing improvements were conducted under the immediate care and management of

MAURICE MURRAY."

AFTER these turneps he sowed barley, and with the barley, grass seeds; before this improvement the land was worth 10s. an acre, but after it would let for 25s. the grass having succeeded perfectly. Cabbages Mr. Oliver has also cultivated these four years, and with success, but does not find, upon the whole, they succeed so well as turneps, except Reynold's turnep-rooted cabbage, which is of very great use late in the spring, after other sorts are gone. Beans Mr. Oliver has also tried in small quantities, and seem to do pretty well; I saw his crop this year drilled and well managed, and a good produce, enough to give him the expectation of their being an advantageous article. Lucerne he has also tried, but found the trouble of keeping it clean too great to answer the cultivation.

vation. Upon manures he has tried an experiment, which promises to be of considerable consequence; upon some land he took in from a creek of Corke harbour, under the flob or sea ooze he dug some very fine blue marle; this he tried for potatoes against dung; the crops to appearance very equal, but upon measuring a *spade* of each, the part marled yielded 14lb. but that dunged only $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb. but the dunging was not a considerable one. It is an object of prodigious consequence to be able to get potatoes at all with marle. In the cultivation of this root Mr. Oliver has introduced the mode of planting them in drills, two feet and a half asunder, with the plough, and found that the saving of labour is exceedingly great, but that the difference of crop is rather in favour of the common method: an acre which yielded 1005 weights, the drilled 822, but saving in the seed of the drilled 60 weights, each weight 21lb.

Mr. Oliver has just taken a farm of 400 acres of land, waste or exhausted by the preceding tenant by incessant crops of corn; this land was rented at 1s. 6d. an acre, but Mr. Oliver has tried it at 15s. and is at present engaged in making very great improvements on it; draining the wet parts, grubbing furze, fallowing, liming, inclosing, and building offices, doing the whole in the most perfect manner, and will soon make the farm carry an appearance very different from what it ever did before. His fallows for wheat had been well and often ploughed, and of a countenance very different from any lands in the neighbourhood.

A YEAR after the date of this journey, having the pleasure of being again with this excellent improver, I had a farther opportunity of becoming better acquainted with his management. I had also gone over an improvement of his at Duntreleague, near Mitchelstown, where he advanced 300 acres of mountain from 50l. or 60l. a year to 300l. a year, having hired it on a lease for ever; he divided the whole in fields of a proper size by well-made ditches, doubly planted with quick and rows of trees; the lands were improved with lime, laid down to grass, and let to tenants who pay their rents well; but Mr. Oliver residing at a distance, the trees were very much damaged and hurt by the tenants cattle. To all appearance this improvement was as completely finished as any in Ireland, and the great profit arising from the undertaking induced the archdeacon to attempt his new one I mentioned above. In that I found a very great progress made: besides an excellent barn of stone and slate, there was a steward's house, stables, &c. and a good farm-yard, walled in; and it was with particular pleasure I saw (it was in winter) a large number of cows and young cattle very well littered in it with straw, and feeding on turneps, a thick layer of sea-sand having been spread all over it. The improvement and cultivation of the farm went on apace, especially the liming; the kiln had been burning a twelvemonth, in which time the expence had been as follows:

364 barrels of culm, at 4s.	-	-	-	-	73	0	0
The quarry is $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile english from the kiln; two horses and two men drawing stone, at 18s. a week	-	-	-	-	46	16	0
Two men quarrying, 5s. a week to one, and 3s. a week to the other	-	-	-	-	20	16	0
Breaking and burning, 8s. a week	-	-	-	-	20	16	0
Gunpowder, 1s. a month	-	-	-	-	0	12	0
24 waggon-load of coal cinders, bought at Corke, at 10s.	-	-	-	-	12	0	0
One horse and man carries out 24 barrels a day, at 1s. 6d. 242 days	-	-	-	-	18	1	0
Total					£. 192	1	0

THE quantity of lime drawn from february 1777 to february 1778 was 5824 barrels, the expence therefore just 8d. a barrel. One Corke barrel of culm, at 4s. used every day, and half a barrel of ashes: the kiln draws 18 barrels a day, 16 for 1 of culm, and 10 for 1 including cinders. This barrel of culm is 6 bushels heaped. Mr. Oliver had an old memorandum, that the price of fuel was three-pence farthing per barrel of lime. Twelve tons of lime-stone produces 50 barrels of roach lime. Nor does the archdeacon trust to lime alone; he buys great quantities of dung and soap ashes in Corke. At the same time I viewed his turnep crops on his home farm, and found them excellent, and many oxen tied in stalls fattening on them, a practice he finds exceedingly profitable; when other graziers sell their bullocks with difficulty, he puts his to turneps, and doubles and trebles their value. In 1777 he had 23 acres of turneps. Before I conclude this account of his spirited exertions, I must add, that if a very few improvers in Ireland have gone through more extensive operations, I have not found one more attentive or more practical, and, upon the whole, scarcely any that come near to him.

LAND about Coolmore lets from 8s. to 20s. The soil limestone. Farms rise from 50l. to 300l. The courses are,

1. Potatoes, yield 50 barrels.
2. Wheat, 3 barrels: add sometimes,
3. Oats.
4. Lay out for grafs.

THE poor people have most of them land with their cabbins, from four to six acres, which they sow with potatoes and wheat. Not many of them keep cows, but a few sorry sheep for milk; they generally have milk, either of their own, or bought, in summer, and in winter they have herrings; but live, upon the whole, worse than in many other parts of the kingdom. The price of labour 6d. a day the year round; in harvest 8d. Rent of a cabin 20s. Many dairies here, which are generally set at four pound a cow, some four guineas, and near Corke, five pounds.

THE manures are lime, at 1s. 4d. a barrel roach; if burnt by themselves, 8d. to 1cd. lay thirty to fifty barrels. Sea sand is used, sixty to eighty bags, each five pecks, to the acre. Corke dung costs 6d. to 1s. a car load; it is all bought up very carefully; 10l. a year is paid for the cleaning of one street; this argues a very spirited husbandry.

RODE to the mouth of Corke harbour; the grounds about it are all fine, bold, and varied, but so bare of trees, that there is not a single view but what pains one in the want of wood. Rents of the tract south of the river Caragoline, from 5s. to 30s. average, 10s. Not one man in five has a cow, but generally from one to four acres, upon which they have potatoes, and five or six sheep, which they milk, and spin their wool. Labour 5d. in winter, 6d. in summer; many of them for three months in the year live on potatoes and water, the rest of it they have a good deal of fish. But it is remarked, at Kinsale, that when sprats are most plentiful, diseases are most common. Rent for a mere cabin, 10s. Much paring and burning; paring twenty-eight men a day, sow wheat on it and then potatoes; get great crops. The soil a sharp stoney land; no lime-stone south of the above river. Manure for potatoes, with sea weed, for 26s. which gives good crops, but lasts only one year. Sea sand much used, no shells in it. Farms rise to two or three hundred acres, but are hired in partnership.

BEFORE I quit the environs of Corke, I must remark, that the country on the harbour, I think preferable, in many respects for a residence, to any thing I have seen in Ireland. *First*, it is the most southerly part of the kingdom. *Second*, there are very great beauties of prospect. *Third*, by much the most animated, busy scene of shipping in all Ireland, and consequently, *Fourth*, a ready price for every product. *Fifth*, great plenty of excellent fish and wild fowl. *Sixth*, the neighbourhood of a great city for objects of convenience.

SEPTEMBER 24th, took my leave of Mr. Oliver; I purposed going from hence to Bandon, in the way to Carbury, and so to Killarney, by Bantry and Nedeon, and with this view had got letters of recommendation to several gentlemen in that country; but hearing that the Priests Leap between Bantry and Nedeon was utterly impassable, the road not being finished, which is making by subscription. I changed my route, and took the Macroom road. Dined with Colonel Ayres, who informed me that the agriculture of that neighbourhood was very indifferent, and little worth noting, except the use of lime as a manure, which is practised with great success. From his house I took the Nedeon road.

PASSED Brockham, the place where Cornelius Townshend, Esq; eight years ago fixed two Suffex farmers, to improve a stoney mountain. I saw the land, and some of the buildings, and having heard several accounts of the transaction from friends to the farmers, which accounts had been received from them; I wished to have Mr. Townshend's, and
with

with that view called at his house, but unfortunately he was not at home; as I missed him, I shall only mention the affair in the light it appeared to me from the particulars I received from different hands.

MR. Townshend wishing to improve his estate, a considerable part of which consisted of mountain, but surprizingly full of rocks and stones; he engaged two Suffex farmers, (Messrs. Crampe, and Johnson) to come over to Ireland, to view the lands in question: they both came over, examined the land, and hired a tract for some time at no rent, or a very small one, and after that at a rent named and agreed to. The men returned, settled their affairs in England, bought very fine horses, and embarked all their stock, implements, &c. and came over, under circumstances of great, but useless expence. When they got to the land, houses and offices were built for them, in a most complete stile, and among others, a barn 100 feet long, and 37 broad; an exceedingly ill-judged expence, the result of bringing merely english (perhaps mistaken in ideas) into the climate of Ireland.

THESE buildings being executing at the landlord's expence, but the tenants drawing the materials, they began the improvement; and found the land so excessively stoney, that the expence of clearing was too great to be within a possibility of answering. One field of eight acres cost 100l. in clearing; walls were built 10 feet thick, with stones that arose in clearing the land. The undertaking went on for 4 years, but was then concluded in the way one might have expected. The men were ruined, and Mr. Townshend suffered considerably by the expences of the undertaking, rising infinitely beyond what he had ever thought they could amount to.

HAD Mr. Townshend met with farmers of sufficient knowledge in their profession, they would not probably have fixed on this spot at all; certainly when they found to what excess it abounded with stones, they would have persuaded him either to give them other land, or have hired a more favourable soil of some other landlord: at all events to persist in improving a spot, the improvement of which could never be repaid, whether it was upon their own, or their landlord's account, was equally inexcusable in point of prudence, and the sure way to bring discredit on the undertaking, and ridicule on what falsely acquired the name of *english husbandry*. Planting is the only proper improvement for land abounding to such excess with rocks.

FROM hence I reached Sir John Coulthurst's, at Knightsbridge, who has a very extensive estate here, 7000 acres of which are mountain and bog. I was unfortunat in not having seen Sir John's seat, near Corke, for there he is at work upon 1000 acres of mountain, and making very great improvements, in which, among other circumstances, he works his bullocks by the horns.

SEPTEMBER 25th, took the road to Nedeen, through the wildest region of mountains that I remember to have seen; it is a dreary, but an interesting road. The various horrid, grotesque and unusual forms in which the mountains rise, and the rocks bulge; the immense height of some distant heads, which rear above all the nearer scenes, the torrents roaring in the vales, and breaking down the mountain sides, with here and there a wretched cabin, and a spot of culture yielding surprise to find human beings the inhabitants of such a scene of wildness, altogether keep the traveller's mind in an agitation and suspense. These rocks and mountains are many of them no otherwise improvable than by planting, for which, however, they are exceedingly well adapted.

SIR John was so obliging as to send half a dozen labourers with me, to help my chaise up a mountain side, of which he gave a formidable account: in truth it deserved it. The road leads directly against a mountain ridge, and those who made it were so incredibly stupid, that they kept the strait line up the hill, instead of turning aside to the right, to wind around a projection of it. The path of the road is worn by torrents into a channel, which is blocked up in places by huge fragments, so that it would be a horrid road on a level; but on a hill so steep, that the best path would be difficult to ascend, it may be supposed terrible: the labourers, two passing strangers, and my servant, could with difficulty get the chaise up. It is much to be regretted that the direction of the road is not changed, as all the rest from Corke to Nedeen is good enough. For a few miles towards the latter place the country is flat on the river Kenmare, much of it good, and under grass or corn. Passed Mr. Orpine's at Ardtilly, and another of the same name at Killowen.

NEDDEEN is a little town, very well situated, on the noble river Kenmare, where ships of 150 tons may come up: there are but three or four good houses. Lord Shelburne, to whom the place belongs, has built one for his agent. There is a vale of good land, which is here from a mile and a half to a mile broad; and to the north and south, great ridges of mountains said to be full of mines.

AT Nedeen, Lord Shelburne had taken care to have me well informed by his people in that country, which belongs for the greatest part to himself, he has above 150,000 irish acres in Kerry; the greatest part of the barony of Glanrought belongs to him, most of Dunkerron and Ivragh. The country is all a region of mountains, inclosed by a vale of flat land on the river; the mountains to the south come to the water's edge, with but few variations, the principal of which is Ardee, a farm of Lord Shelburne's: to the north of the river, the flat land is one-half to three quarters of a mile broad. The mountains to the south reach to Bear-haven, and those to the north to Dingle-bay;

bay; the soil is extremely various; to the south of the river all are sand stones, and the hills loam, stone, gravel, and bog. To the north there is a slip of lime-stone land, from Kilgarvon to Cabbina-cush, that is six miles east of Nedeem, and three to the west, but is not more than a quarter of a mile broad, the rest including the mountains all sand stone. As to its rents, it is very difficult to tell what they are; for land is let by the plough land and gineve, 12 gineves to the plough land; but the latter denomination is not of any particular quantity: for no 2 plough lands are the same. The size of farms is various, from 40 acres to 1000, less quantities go with cabbins, and some farms are taken by labourers in partnership. Their tillage consists of potatoes measured by the peck of 84 lb. manure for them with sea weed, three boat loads to an acre, each at 16s. 3d. the poor people use nothing else: but those who can afford it, lay dung with it. These potatoes are the first crop. Thirty pecks plant an acre, and it takes from twenty to thirty men to set an acre in a day.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Oats, or barley, good crops. 4 Lay it out for what comes, and in the first season the finest grasses appear.

SOME wheat is sown, but not generally by the poor people. Oats are the common crop. This is the short history of their arable management. There are some dairies; from 12 to 24 cows in each, and are set at 50s. or one cwt. of butter and 12s. horn money, the dairymen's privilege is two collops to 20 cows; a cabin, and three acres of land. The butter is all carried to Corke on horses backs. Three years ago 40s. a cow was the highest. The common stock of the mountains are young cattle, bred by the poor people; but the large farmers go generally to Limerick for yearlings, turn them on the mountains, where they are kept till three years old, when they sell them at Nedeem or Killarney, engaging them to be with calf. Buy at 40s. this year, but used to be from 20s. to 30s. formerly sold at 50s. now at 31. The poor people's heifers sell at three years old, at 30s. their breed is the little mountain, or Kerry cow, which upon good land gives a great deal of milk. I have remarked, as I travelled through the country, much of the Alderney breed in some of them. The winter food, which the farmers provide, is to keep bottom lands through the summer, which they call a nursery, to which they bring their cattle down from the mountains when the weather becomes severe. There are great numbers of swine, and many reared on the mountains by the Tormentile root, which abounds there, and from which they will come down good pork. There are few sheep kept, not sufficient to cloath the poor people, who, however, work up what there is into frize. Lambs sell from 2s. 2d. to 3s. at four months old. Three year old wethers, fat, from 5s. to 8s. weight about 9 lb. a quarter, and are admirable mutton. A ewe's fleece, one pound and a half to two pound

pound and a half. A lamb's, one pound. A three year old wether, two pound and a half. They have some cows, which are fattened in the vales; and also some on the mountains, weighing 2 cwt. and two and a quarter. Many goats are kept on the mountains, especially by the poor people, to whom they are a very great support; for upon the mountains the milk of a goat is equal to that of a cow; and some of the kids are killed for meat.

UPON asking whether they ploughed with horses or oxen, I was told there was not a plough in the whole parish of Tooavista, which is 12 miles long by 7 broad. All the tillage is by the irish loy; ten men dig an acre a day that has been stirred before. It will take forty men to put in an acre of potatoes in a day. Rents have fallen greatly in most parts of Kerry. Tythes in 1770 and in 1771 were taken in kind, owing to their having been pushed up to too great a height; since 1771 they have been lowered; the proctor every year values the tythe of the whole farm. Leases are, some for ever, others 31 years, and some 21. The rent of a cabin, without land, 6s. with an acre of land, 1l. 2s. 9d. The grass for a cow is 40s. on the mountains from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. a quarter. They have generally about five acres. They all keep a cow or two. All on the mountains have goats. Swine also are universal among them. The labour of the farms are generally carried on by cottars, to whom the farmer assigns a cabin, and a garden, and the running of two collops on the mountain, for which he pays a rent; he is bound to work with his master for 3d. a day and two meals. Their food in summer potatoes and milk; but in spring they have only potatoes and water. Sometimes they have herrings and sprats. They never eat salmon. The religion is in general roman catholic.

LIME, is a barrel, but may be burnt for 8d. Fuel, all turf, 13d. a flane, each flane four feet long, by two feet broad. Price of building a cabin, with stone and slate in lime mortar, 20l.

THERE has been a considerable fishery upon the coast of Kerry, particularly in the Kenmare, at Ballenskillings in Iveragh, in the river Valentia, in Bear Haven, in Castlemain bay, in Dingle bay, &c. Last year, that in the Kenmare river was the most considerable: it employed twelve boats. This year none at all; the chief in Ballenskerrings and river Valentia. None in Kenmare for several years before: but great abundance of sprats for three years. Salmon is constant; they export about five tons, salted. The herrings chiefly for home consumption, salted and fresh. The herring boats are of two tons, 14 foot keel, cost building 3l. 3s. five men go in each: they are built here of bog deal. A string of three nets costs 3l. the poor go shares in the fishery; build or hire the boat, and join for the nets, which are made of hemp, bought at Corke, and spun and made here: they tan them with bark. There are many more men would go out if they had boats, but it is a
very

very uncertain fishery. Many persons have put themselves to considerable expence about it, but without success, except thirty-three years ago, when the pilchards came in, and have never been here since.

KILLARNEY is the principal market for wheat, which is twelve miles distant. A sloop constantly employed upon the river Kenmare, in bringing salt, and carrying lime-stone, or whatever was wanted, would be a great improvement.

LORD Shelburne has a plan for improving Nedeen, to which he has given the name of Kenmare, from his friend the nobleman, with that title, which, when executed, must be of considerable importance. It is to build ten cabbins, and annex ten acres to each cabin, rent free for twenty-one years; also to form twenty-acred allotments for the parks to the town of Nedeen, with design to encourage settlements in it, for which 330 acres are kept in hand. The situation is advantageous, and ships of 100 tons can come up to it, with a very good landing-place. He has also fixed some english farmers.

RELATIVE to the improvement of the wild regions within sight of the house I was in, I asked, *Suppose five acres of those mountains to be cleared of stones, a stone cabin built, at 7l. expence, and a wall raised round the whole, and to be let at a reasonable rent, would a tenant be found? "That moment." Suppose six of them, or twelve? "You would have tenants for all, if there were an hundred."*

IN the parish of Tooavister, they have a way of taking land by the ounce, in the arable part, which joins the sea. An ounce is the sixteenth of a gineve, and is sufficient for a potatoe garden, and they pay a guinea for it.

THE climate in these parts of Kerry is so mild, that potatoes are left by the poor people in the ground the whole winter through; but last winter almost ruined them, their crop being destroyed.

SEPTEMBER 26th, left Nedeen, and rising the mountainous region, towards Killarny, came to a tract of mountain-bog, one of the most improveable I have any where seen. It hangs to the south, and might be drained with the utmost ease. It yields a coarse grass, and has nothing in it to stop a plough. Lord Shelburne's agent, Mr. Wray, told me, that there are vast tracts of such in the barony of Iveragh. There is common gravel on the spot, and lime-stone in plenty, within half a mile of Nedeen.

Soon entered the wildest and most romantic country I had any where seen; a region of steep rocks and mountains, which continued for nine or ten miles, till I came in view of Mucrafs. There is something magnificently wild in this stupendous scenery, formed to impress the mind with a certain species of terror. All this tract has a rude and savage air, but parts of it are strikingly interesting; the mountains are bare and rocky, and of a great magnitude; the vales are rocky glens, where

where a mountain-stream tumbles along the roughest bed imaginable, and receives many torrents, pouring from clefts, half overhung with shrubby wood; some of these streams are seen, and the roar of others heard, but hid by vast masses of rock. Immense fragments, torn from the precipices by storms and torrents, are tumbled about in the wildest confusion, and seem to hang rather than rest upon projecting precipices. Upon some of these fragments of rock, perfectly detached from the soil, except by the side on which they lie, are beds of black turf, with luxuriant crops of heath, &c. which appeared very curious to me, having no where seen the like; and I observed very high in the mountains, much higher than any cultivation is at present, on the right hand, flat and cleared spaces of good grass among the ridges of rock, which had probably been cultivated, and proved that these mountains were not incapable from climate of being applied to useful purposes.

FROM one of these heights, I looked forward to the lake of Killarney at a considerable distance, and backward to the river Kenmare; came in view of a small part of the upper lake, spotted with several islands, and surrounded by the most tremendous mountains that can be imagined of an aspect savage and dreadful. From this scene of wild magnificence, I broke at once upon all the glories of Killarney; from an elevated point of view I looked down on a considerable part of the lake, which gave me a specimen of what I might expect. The water you command (which, however, is only a part of the lake) appears a basin of two or three miles round; to the left it is inclosed by the mountains you have passed particularly by the Turk, whose outline is uncommonly noble, and joins a range of others, that form the most magnificent shore in the world: on the other side is a rising scenery of cultivated hills, and Lord Kenmare's park and woods; the end of the lake at your feet is formed by the root of Mangerton, on whose side the road leads. From hence I looked down on a pretty range of inclosures on the lake, and the woods and lawns of Muckross, forming a large promontory of thick wood, shooting far into the lake. The most active fancy can sketch nothing in addition. Islands of wood beyond seem to join it, and reaches of the lake, breaking partly between, give the most lively intermixture of water: six or seven isles and islets form an accompaniment, some are rocky, but with a slight vegetation, others contain groups of trees, and the whole thrown into forms, which would furnish new ideas to a painter. Farther is a chain of wooded islands, which also appear to join the main land, with an offspring of lesser ones scattered around.

ARRIVED at Mr. Herbert's at Muckross, to whose friendly attention I owed my succeeding pleasure. There have been so many descriptions of Killarney written by gentlemen who have resided some time there, and seen it at
every

every season, that for a passing traveller to attempt the like, would be in vain; for this reason I shall give the mere journal of the remarks I made on the spot, in the order I viewed the lake.

SEPTEMBER 27th, walked into Mr. Herbert's beautiful grounds, to Oroch's hill, in the lawn that he has cleared from that profusion of stones which lie under the wall; the scene which this point commands is truly delicious; the house is on the edge of the lawn, by a wood which covers the whole peninsula, fringes the slope at your feet, and forms a beautiful shore to the lake. Tomis and Glena are a vast mountainous masses of incredible magnificence, the outline soft and easy in its swells, whereas those above the eagle's nest are of so broken and abrupt an outline, that nothing can be imagined more savage, an aspect horrid and sublime, that gives all the impressions to be wished to astonish, rather than please the mind. The Turk exhibits noble features, and Mangerton's huge body rises above the whole. The cultivated tracts towards Killarney, form a shore in contrast to the terrific scenes I have just mentioned; the distant boundary of the lake, a vast ridge of distant blue mountains towards Dingle. From hence entered the garden, and viewed Mucruis abbey, one of the most interesting scenes I ever saw; it is the ruin of a considerable abbey, built in Henry the VIth's time, and so entire, that if it were more so, tho' the *building* would be more perfect, the *ruin* would be less pleasing; it is half obscured in the shade of some venerable ash trees; ivy has given the picturesque circumstance, which that plant alone can confer, while the broken walls and ruined turrets throw over it

The last mournful graces of decay,

heaps of skulls and bones scattered about, with nettles, briars and weeds sprouting in tufts from the loose stones, all unite to raise those melancholy impressions, which are the merit of such scenes, and which can scarcely any where be felt more completely. The cloisters form a dismal area, in the center of which grows the most prodigious yew tree I ever beheld, in one great stem, two feet diameter, and fourteen feet high, from whence a vast head of branches spreads on every side, so as to form a perfect canopy to the whole space; I looked for its fit inhabitant—it is a spot where

The moping owl doth to the moon complain.

This ruin is in the true stile in which all such buildings should appear; there is not an intruding circumstance—the hand of dress has not touch'd it—melancholy is the impression which such scenes should kindle, and it is here raised most powerfully.

FROM the abbey we passed to the terrafs, a natural one of grafs, on the very shore of the lake; it is irregular and winding; a wall of rocks broken into fantaftic forms by the waves: on the other fide, a wood, confifting of all forts of plants, which the climate can protect, and through which a variety of walks are traced. The view from this terrafs confifts of many parts of various characters, but in their different ftiles complete; the lake opens a fpredding fheet of water, fpofted by rocks and iflands, all but one or two wooded, the outlines of them are fharp and diftinct; nothing can be more fmiling than this fcene, foft and mild, a perfect contraft of beauty to the fublimity of the mountains which form the fhore: thefe rife in an outline, fo varied, and at the fame time fo magnificent, that nothing greater can be imagined; Tomys and Glená exhibit an immenfty in point of magnitude, but from a large hanging wood on the flope, and from the fmoothnefs of the general furface, it has nothing favage, whereas the mountains above and near the Eagle's neft are of the moft broken outlines; the declivities are bulging rocks, of immense fize, which feem to impend in horrid forms over the lake, and where an opening among them is caught, others of the fame rude character, rear their threatening heads. From different parts of the terrafs thefe fcenes are viewed in numberlefs varieties.

RETURNED to breakfast, and purfued Mr. Herbert's new road, which he has traced through the peninfula to Dynis ifland, three miles in length; and it is carried in fo judicious a manner through a great variety of ground, rocky woods, lawns, &c. that nothing can be more pleafing; it paffes through a remarkable fcene of rocks, which are covered with woods; from thence to the marble quarry, which Mr. Herbert is working; and where he gains variety of marbles, green, red, white, and brown, prettily veined; the quarry is a fhore of rocks, which furround a bay of the lake, and forms a fcene, confifting of but few parts, but thofe ftrongly marked; the rocks are bold, and broken into flight caverns; they are fringed with fcattered trees, and from many parts of them wood fhoots in that romantic manner, fo common at Killarney. Full in front Turk mountain riles with the proudeft outline, in that abrupt magnificence which fills up the whole fpace before one, and closes the fcene.

THE road leads by a place where copper-mines were worked; many fhafes appear; as much ore was raifed as fold for twenty-five thoufand pounds, but the works were laid afide, more from ignorance in the workmen, than any defects in the mine.

CAME to an opening on the Great Lake, which appears to advantage here, the town of Killarney on the north-eaft fhore. Look full on the mountain Glená, which riles in a very bold manner, the hanging woods fpread half way, and are of great extent, and uncommonly beautiful.

beautiful. Two very pleasing scenes succeed, that to the left is a small bay, hemmed in by a neck of land in front; the immediate shore rocks, which are in a picturesque stile, and crowned entirely with arbutus, and other wood; a pretty retired scene, where a variety of objects give no fatigue to the eye. The other is an admirable mixture of the beautiful and sublime: a bare rock, of an almost regular figure, projects from a headland into the lake, which with much wood and high land, forms one side of the scene, the other is wood from a rising ground only; the lake open between, in a sheet of no great extent, but in front is the hanging wood of Glená, which appears in full glory.

MR. Herbert has built a handsome gothic bridge, to unite the peninsula to the island of Brickeen, through the arch of which the waters of the north and south lake flow. It is a span of twenty-seven feet, and seventeen high, and over it the road leads to that island. From thence to Brickeen nearly finished, and it is to be thrown across a bottom into Dynis.

RETURNED by the northern path through a thick wood for some distance, and caught a very agreeable view of Ash Island, seen through an opening, inclosed on both sides with wood. Pursued the way from these grounds to Keelbeg, and viewed the bay of the Devil's Island, which is a beautiful one, inclosed by a shore, to the right of very noble rocks, in ledges and other forms, crowned in a striking manner with wood; a little rocky islet rises in front; to the left the water opens, and Turk mountain rises with that proud superiority which attends him in all these scenes.

THE view of the promontory of Dindog, near this place, closes this part of the lake, and is indeed singularly beautiful. It is a large rock, which shoots far into the water, of a height sufficient to be interesting, in full relief, fringed with a scanty vegetation; the shore on which you stand bending to the right, as if to meet that rock, presents a circular shade of dark wood: Turk still the back ground, in a character of great sublimity, and Mangerton's loftier summit, but less interesting outline, a part of the scenery. These views, with others of less moment, are connected by a succession of lawns breaking among the wood, pleasing the eye with lively verdure, and relieving it from the fatigue of the stupendous mountain scenes.

SEPTEMBER 28th, took boat on the lake, from the promontory of Dindog before mentioned. I had been under a million of apprehensions that I should see no more of Killarney; for it blew a furious storm all night, and in the morning the bosom of the lake heaved with agitation, exhibiting few marks but those of anger. After breakfast, it cleared up, the clouds dispersed by degrees, the waves subsided, the sun shone

out in all its splendor ; every scene was gay, and no ideas but pleasure possessed the breast. With these emotions sallied forth, nor did they disappoint us.

Rowed under the rocky shore of Dindog, which is romantic to a great degree. The base, by the beating of the waves, is worn into caverns, so that the heads of the rocks project considerably beyond the base, and hang over in a manner which makes every part of it interesting. Following the coast, open marble quarry bay, the shore great fragments of rock tumbled about in the wildest manner.

THE island of rocks against the copper-mine shore, a remarkable group. The shore near Casemilan is of a different nature ; it is wood in some places, in unbroken masses down to the water's edge, in others divided from it by smaller tracts of rock. Come to a beautiful land-locked bay, surrounded by a woody shore, which opening in places, shews other woods more retired. Tomys is here viewed in a unity of form, which gives it an air of great magnificence. Turk was obscured by the sun shining immediately above him, and casting a stream of burning light on the water, displayed an effect, to describe which the pencil of a Claude alone would be equal. Turn out of the bay, and gain a full view of the Eagle's Nest, the mountains above it, and Glená, they form a perfect contrast, the first are rugged, but Glená mild. Here the shore is a continued wood.

PASS the bridge, and cross to Dynis, an island Mr. Herbert has improved in the most agreeable manner, by cutting walks through it, that command a variety of views. One of these paths on the banks of the channel to the upper lake, is sketched with great taste ; it is on one side walled with natural rocks, from the clefts of which shoot a thousand fine arbutus's, that hang in a rich foliage of flowers and scarlet berries ; a turf bench in a delicious spot ; the scene close and sequestered, just enough to give every pleasing idea annexed to retirement.

PASSING the bridge, by a rapid stream, came presently to the Eagle's Nest : having viewed this rock from places where it appears only a part of an object much greater than itself, I had conceived an idea that it did not deserve the applause given it, but upon coming near, I was much surprized ; the approach is wonderfully fine, the river leads directly to its foot, and does not give the turn till immediately under, by which means the view is much more grand than it could otherwise be ; it is nearly perpendicular, and rises in such full majesty, with so bold an outline, and such projecting masses in its center, that the magnificence of the object is complete. The lower part is covered with wood, and scattered trees climb almost to the top, which (if trees can be amiss in Ireland) rather weaken the impression raised by this noble rock ; this
part

part is a hanging wood, or an object whose character is perfect beauty; but the upper scene, the broken outline, rugged sides, and bulging masses, all are sublime, and so powerful, that sublimity is the general impression of the whole, by overpowering the idea of beauty raised by the wood. The immense height of the mountains of Killarney may be estimated by this rock, from any distant place that commands it, it appears the lowest crag of a vast chain, and of no account; but on a close approach it is found to command a very different respect.

PASS between the mountains called the Great Range, towards the upper lake. Here Turk, which has so long appeared, with a figure perfectly interesting, is become, from a different position, an unmeaning lump. The rest of the mountains, as you pass, assume a varied appearance, and are of a prodigious magnitude. The scenery in this channel is great and wild in all its features; wood is very scarce; vast rocks seem tossed in confusion through the narrow vale, which is opened among the mountains for the river to pass. Its banks are rocks in an hundred forms; the mountain sides are every where scattered with them. There is not a circumstance but is in unison with the wild grandeur of the scene.

COLEMAN'S EYE, a narrow pass, opens a different scenery. Came to a region in which the beautiful and the great are mixed without offence. The islands are most of them thickly wooded; Oak isle in particular rises on a pretty base, and is a most beautiful object: Mac Gilly Cuddy's reeks, with their broken points; Baum, with his perfect cone; the Purple mountain, with his broad and more regular head; and Turk, having assumed a new and more interesting aspect, unite with the opposite hills, part of which have some wood left on them, to form a scene uncommonly striking. Here you look back on a very peculiar spot; it is a parcel of rocks which cross the lake, and form a gap that opens to distant water, the whole backed by Turk, in a stile of the highest grandeur.

COME to Derry Currily, which is a great sweep of mountain, covered partly with wood, hanging in a very noble manner, but part cut down, much of it mangled, and the rest inhabited by coopers, boat-builders, carpenters, and turners, a sacrilegious tribe, who have turned the Dryades from their ancient habitations. The cascade here is a fine one, but passed quickly from hence to scenes unmixed with pain.

Row to the cluster of the Seven Islands, a little archipelago; they rise very boldly from the water upon rocky bases, and are crowned in the most beautiful manner with wood, among which are a number of arbutus; the channels among them opening to new scenes, and the great amphitheatre of rock and mountain that surround them, unite to form a noble view.

INTO

INTO the river, at the very end of the lake, which winds towards Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks in fanciful meanders.

RETURNED by a course somewhat different, through the Seven Islands, and back to the Eagle's Nest, viewing the scenes already mentioned in new positions. At that noble rock fired three cannon for the echo, which indeed is prodigious; the report does not consist of direct reverberations from one rock to another with a pause between, but has an exact resemblance to a peal of thunder rattling behind the rock, as if travelling the whole scenery we had viewed and lost in the immensity of Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks.

RETURNING through the bridge, turn to the left round Dynis island, under the woods of Glená; open on the cultivated country beyond the town of Killarney, and come gradually in sight of Innisfallen and Ross Island.

PASS near to the wood of Glená, which here takes the appearance of one immense sweep hanging in the most beautiful manner imaginable, on the side of a vast mountain to a point, shooting into the great lake. A more glorious scene is not to be imagined. It is one deep mass of wood, composed of the richest shades perfectly dipping in the water, without rock or strand appearing, not a break in the whole. The eye passing upon the sheet of liquid silver some distance, to meet so intimate a sweep of every tint that can compose one vast mass of green, hanging to such an extent as to fill not only the eye, but the imagination unites in the whole to form the most noble scene that is any where to be beheld.

TURN under the North shore of Mucruss; the lake here is one great expanse of water, bounded by the woods described, the islands of Innisfallen, Ross, &c. and the peninsula. The shore of Mucruss has a great variety; it is in some places rocky, huge masses tumbled from their base lie beneath, as in a chaos of ruin. Great caverns worn under them in a variety of strange forms: or else covered with woods of a variety of shades. Meet the point of Ardnagluggen, (in english where the water dashes on the rocks) and come under Ornescope, a rocky headland of a most bold projection hanging many yards over its base, with an old weather-beaten yew, growing from a little bracket of rock, from which the spot is called Ornescope, or *yew broom*.

MUCRUSS gardens presently open among the woods, and relieve the eye, almost fatigued with the immense objects upon which it has so long gazed; these softer scenes of lawn gently swelling among the shrubs and trees, finished the second day.

SEPTEMBER 29th, rode, after breakfast, to Mangerton Cascade and Drumarouk Hill, from which the view of Mucruss is uncommonly pleasing.

PASS

PASS the other hill, the view of which I described the 27th, and went to Colonel Husly's monument, from whence the scene is different from the rest; the fore ground is a gentle hill, intersected by hedges, forming several small lawns. There are some scattered trees and houses, with Mucruss Abbey, half obscured by wood, the whole chearful, and backed by Turk. The lake is of a triangular form, Rofs island and Innisfallen its limits, the woods of Mucruss and the islands take a new position.

RETURNING, took boat again towards Rofs isle, and as Mucruss retires from us, nothing can be more beautiful than the spots of lawn in the terrace opening in the wood; above it, the green hills with clumps, and the whole finishing in the noble group of wood about the abbey, which here appears a deep shade, and so fine a finishing one, that not a tree should be touched. Rowed to the east point of Rofs, which is well wooded, turn to the south coast. Doubling the point, the most beautiful shore of that island appears; it is the well wooded environs of a bay, except a small opening to the castle; the woods are in deep shades, and rise on the regular slopes of a high range of rocky coast. The part in front of Filekilly point rises in the middle, and sinks towards each end. The woods of Tomys here appear uncommonly fine. Open Innisfallen, which is composed at this distance of the most various shades, within a broken outline, entirely different from the other islands, groups of different masses rising in irregular tufts, and joined by lower trees. No pencil could mix a happier assemblage. Land near a miserable room, where travellers dine—Of the isle of Innisfallen, it is paying no great compliment to say, it is the most beautiful in the king's dominions, and perhaps in Europe. It contains twenty acres of land, and has every variety that the range of beauty, unmixed with the sublime, can give. The general feature is that of wood; the surface undulates into swelling hills, and sinks into little vales; the slopes are in every direction, the declivities die gently away, forming those slight inequalities which are the greatest beauty of dressed grounds. The little valleys let in views of the surrounding lake between the hills, while the swells break the regular outline of the water, and give to the whole an agreeable confusion. The wood has all the variety into which nature has thrown the surface; in some parts it is so thick as to appear impenetrable, and secludes all farther view; in others, it breaks into tufts of tall timber, under which cattle feed. Here they open, as if to offer to the spectator the view of the naked lawn; in others close, as if purposely to forbid a more prying examination. Trees of large size, and commanding figure, form in some places natural arches; the ivy mixing with the branches, and hanging across in festoons of foliage, while on one side the lake glitters among the trees, and on the other a thick gloom dwells in the recesses of the wood. The figure of the island renders

renders one part a beautiful object to another ; for the coast being broken and indented, forms bays surrounded either by rock or wood : slight promontories shoot into the lake, whose rocky edges are crowned with wood. These are the great features of Innisfallen ; the slighter touches are full of beauties easily imagined by the reader. Every circumstance of the wood, the water, the rocks and lawn, are characteristic, and have a beauty in the assemblage from mere disposition. I must, however, observe, that this delicious retreat is not kept as one could wish.

SCENES, that are great and commanding from magnitude or wildness, should never be dressed ; the *rugged*, and even the *horrible*, may add to the effect upon the mind : but in such as Innisfallen, a degree of dress, that is, cleanliness, is even necessary to beauty. I have spoken of lawn, but I should observe, that expression indicates what it ought to be, rather than what it is. It is very rich grass, poached by oxen and cows, the only inhabitants of the island. No spectator of taste but will regret the open grounds not being drained with hollow cuts ; the ruggedness of the surface levelled, and the grass kept close shaven by many sheep instead of beasts. The bushes and briars where they have encroached on what ought to be lawn, cleared away ; some parts of the isle more opened : in a word, no ornaments given, for the scene wants them not, but obstructions cleared, ruggedness smoothed, and the whole cleaned. This is what ought to be done ; as to what might be made of the island, if its noble proprietor (Lord Kenmare) had an inclination, it admits of being converted into a terrestrial paradise, lawning with the intermixture of other shrubs and wood, and a *little* dress, would make it an example of what ornamented grounds might be, but which not one in a thousand is. Take the island, however, as it is, with its few imperfections, and where are we to find such another ? What a delicious retreat ! An emperor could not bestow such an one as Innisfallen ; with a cottage, a few cows, and a swarm of poultry, is it possible that happiness should refuse to be a guest here ?

Row to Ross Castle, in order to coast that island ; there is nothing peculiarly striking in it ; return the same way around Innisfallen ; in this little voyage the shore of Ross is one of the most beautiful of the wooded ones in the lake ; it seems to unite with Innisfallen, and projects into the water in thick woods one beyond another. In the middle of the channel a large rock, and from the other shore a little promontory of a few scattered trees ; the whole scene pleasing.

THE shore of Innisfallen has much variety, but in general it is woody, and of the beautiful character which predominates in that island ; one bay, at taking leave of it, is exceedingly pretty, it is a semicircular one, and in the center there is a projecting knole of wood within a bay ; this is uncommon, and has an agreeable effect.

THE

THE near approach to Tomys exhibits a sweep of wood, so great in extent, and so rich in foliage, that no person can see without admiring it. The mountainous part above is soon excluded by the approach; wood alone is seen, and that in such a noble range, as to be greatly striking; it just hollows into a bay, and in the center of it is a chasm in the wood; this is the bed of a considerable stream, which forms O'Sullivan's cascade, to which all strangers are conducted, as one of the principal beauties of Killarney. Landed to the right of it, and walked under the thick shade of the wood, over a rocky declivity; close to the torrent stream, which breaks impetuously from rock to rock, with a roar that kindles expectation. The picture in your fancy will not exceed the reality; a great stream bursts from the deep bosom of a wooded glen, hollowed into a retired recess of rocks and trees, itself a most pleasing and romantic spot, were there not a drop of water; the first fall is many feet perpendicularly over a rock, to the eye it immediately makes another, the basin into which it pours being concealed; from this basin it forces itself impetuously between two rocks; this second fall is also of a considerable height, but the lower one, the third, is the most considerable, it issues in the same manner from a basin hid from the point of view. These basins being large, there appears a space of several yards between each fall, which adds much to the picturesque scenery; the whole is within an arch of wood, that hangs over it; the quantity of water is so considerable as to make an almost deafening noise, and uniting with the torrent below, where the fragments of rock are large and numerous, throw an air of grandeur over the whole. It is about seventy feet high. Coast from hence the woody shores of Tomys and Glená, they are upon the whole much the most beautiful ones I have any where seen; Glená woods having more oak, and some arbutus's, are the finer and deeper shades; Tomys has a great quantity of birch, whose foliage is not so luxuriant. The reader may figure to himself what these woods are, when he is informed that they fill an unbroken extent of six miles in length, and from half a mile to a mile and a half in breadth, all hanging on the sides of two vast mountains, and coming down with a full robe of rich luxuriance to the very water's edge. The acclivity of these hills is such, that every tree appears full to the eye. The variety of the ground is great; in some places great swells in the mountain side, with corresponding hollows, present concave and convex masses; in others, considerable ridges of land and rock rise from the sweep, and offer to the astonished eye yet other varieties of shade. Smaller mountains rise regularly from the immense bosom of the larger, and hold forth their sylvan heads, backed by yet higher woods. To give all the varieties of this immense scenery of forest is impossible. Above the whole is a prodigious mass of mountain, of a gently swelling out-

line and soft appearance, varying as the sun or clouds change their position, but never becoming rugged, or threatening to the eye.

THE variations are best seen by rowing near the shore, when every stroke of the oar gives a new outline, and fresh tints to please the eye: but for one great impression, row about two miles from the shore of Glená; at that distance the inequalities in the surface are no longer seen, but the eye is filled with so immense a range of wood, crowned with a mountain in perfect unison with itself, that objects, whose character is that of beauty, are here, from their magnitude, truly magnificent, and attended with a most forceable impression.—Returned to Mucrufs.

SEPTEMBER 30th, this morning I had dedicated to the ascent of Mangerton, but his head was so enshrouded in clouds, and the weather so bad, that I was forced to give up the scheme: Mr. Herbert has measured him with very accurate instruments, of which he has a great collection, and found his height 835 yards above the level of the sea. The Devil's punch bowl, from the description I had of it, must be the crater of an exhausted volcano: there are many signs of them about Killarney, particularly vast rocks on the sides of mountains, in streams, as if they had rolled from the top in one direction. Brown stone rocks are also sometimes found on lime quarries, tossed thither, perhaps in some vast eruption.

IN my way from Killarney to Castle Island, rode into Lord Kenmare's park, from whence there is another beautiful view of the lake, different from many of the preceding; there is a broad margin of cultivated country at your feet, to lead the eye gradually in the lake, which exhibits her islands to this point more distinctly than to any other, and the back grounds of the mountains of Glená and Tomys give a bold relief.

UPON the whole, Killarney, among the lakes that I have seen, can scarcely be said to have a rival. The extent of water in Loch Earne is much greater; the islands more numerous, and some scenes near Castle Caldwell, of perhaps as great magnificence. The rocks at Keswick are more sublime, and other lakes may have circumstances in which they are superior; but when we consider the prodigious woods of Killarney; the immensity of the mountains; the uncommon beauty of the promontory of Mucrufs, and the isle of Inisfallen; the character of the islands; the singular circumstance of the arbuttus, and the uncommon echoes, it will appear, upon the whole, to be in reality superior to all comparison.

BEFORE I quit it, I have one other observation to make, which is relative to the want of accommodations and extravagant expence of strangers residing at Killarney. I speak it not at all feelingly, thanks to Mr. Herbert's hospitality, but from the accounts given me: the inns are
miserable,

miserable, and the lodgings little better. I am surpris'd somebody with a good capital does not procure a large well built inn, to be erected on the immediate shore of the lake, in an agreeable situation, at a distance from the town; there are very few places where such an one would answer better, there ought to be numerous and good apartments. A large rendezvous-room for billiards, cards, dancing, musick, &c. to which the company might resort when they chose it; an ordinary for those that liked dining in public; boats of all sorts, nets for fishing, and as great a variety of amusements as could be collected, especially within doors: for the climate being very rainy, travellers wait with great impatience in a dirty common inn, which they would not do if they were in the midst of such accommodations as they meet with at an english spaw. But above all, the prices of every thing, from a room and a dinner, to a barge and a band of music, to be reasonable, and hung up in every part of the house: the resort of strangers to Killarney would then be much increased, and their stay would be greatly prolonged; they would not view it post-haste, and fly away the first moment to avoid dirt and imposition. A man, with a good capital and some ingenuity, would, I think, make a fortune by fixing here upon such principles.

In the line of agriculture, Mr. Herbert has carried on some important experiments, which much deserve attention. Of 360 acres he has reclaimed 140, which, before he began, were covered with great rocks, stones, brambles, (*rubus fruticosus*) and furze, (*eulex europæus*.) His first operation was to cut down and grub up the spontaneous growth that was the strongest: but the rest he set fire to, in order to plough them up with bullocks. Then he attacked the stones, some of which were five or six feet square; the large ones were burst in pieces by kindling fires upon them, being the brown sand-stone. But this operation will have no effect on lime-stone; others not so large were drawn off the land by bullocks, to some of which 30 were harnessed: but all stones that could be got at were by some means or other carried off.

THIS work of breaking the stones by fire is very curious, and exceedingly useful: Mr. Herbert appeared to have attended very closely to the operation. He informed me that they first light a good fire, which in about a quarter of an hour enables them to beat off the outward skin of the stone with a sledge hammer, and they then immediately light a second fire, which soon makes the stone crack. The men observe to keep it a lively brisk fire, free from ashes; when the stone cracks, they assist it with a strong blow of the hammer, which then bursts it asunder, and is at once broken in pieces without difficulty.

In ploughing the land, as soon as this work was done, the remaining roots of furze, &c. were so large, that he was forced to fasten two ploughs together with chains, and then, with a great force of bullocks,

tore up the roots, the ploughs and tackle being remarkably strong. The ashes of the wood, &c. being spread with those of the rubbish, numerous ploughings were given. The soil a thin gravel, of a whitish hungry appearance, but lime changed it at once to a rich brown colour. The last ploughing turned in the lime: upon which, Mr. Herbert, fresh from Tull and Randal determined to become a driller, drilled it with wheat, the clearest proof in the world how completely the ground had been reclaimed. This crop he horse hoed, following the directions of Tull and Duhamel; the produce was trifling, and the practice found very expensive, and the crops unprofitable: were, however, very beautiful and elegant to look at. He tried it for wheat, lucerne, sainfoine, red clover, beans, pease, and, in a word, every plant recommended by the drill writers, and continued it for four years. Having ascertained this thorough experience, that the drill husbandry was exceedingly disadvantageous, he gave it up, and laid down with white clover and hay seeds; and could be let at 20s. an acre. Mr. Herbert, however, going to England, they were not taken such care of as they ought, never being manured. Some were laid down with burnet, which took very well in the land, but was soon overcome and choaked with natural grass. Bird grass he tried, got the seed from Rocque, but finds it a very coarse poor plant of no value. Lucerne he had upon a very extensive scale; having six acres of it, found it a very good grass, fed all sorts of cattle with success, particularly in fattening bullocks, the fat of them being marbled in the finest manner imaginable. He had it in broad cast, and used Rocques harrow; but upon his soil the harrow tore up the lucerne as well as the weeds, yet the natural grass got much a head. The drill method is the best; but such is the luxuriant growth of the common grasses in Ireland, that there was the greatest difficulty in keeping it clean. Sainfoine also did very well, but the grass had with that the same effect as the lucerne.

MR. Herbert has cultivated potatoes in the common lazy-bed method, upon an extensive scale, and he is convinced, from repeated experience, that there is no way in the world of managing that root that equals it, especially for bringing in waste lands. It has been with the greatest surprise that he has read this mode condemned by several english writers; when properly executed, it mixes the land and the manure, and by taking two crops successively, and digging them out, if all the land is stirred, it leaves it in admirable order for a successive crop of any kind.

FOLDING sheep Mr. Herbert practises by means of a contrivance of his own; instead of hurdles, a pole 12 feet long, and 5 inch diameter, stuck through with perpendiculars, and having at each end two longer pieces to rest on, in form of a cross: those are moveable, and easily set in rows. He pens the sheep on his grass lands, and finds the effect wonderful,
nothing

nothing equalling them for manuring the land, and at a very small expence. Is clearly of opinion, that nothing would be a greater improvement to Ireland than introducing the practice generally.

AN observation which Mr. Herbert has made on mowing land is highly deserving attention: it is, that land ought always to be mowed, though the value of the hay will not pay the expence. It is common in Ireland to mow parts of fields that are good, and leave the rest; but he always cuts the whole, and finds the practice very advantageous to the land.

SOME bog this gentleman has improved merely by draining, and then spreading mold upon it, without tilling or burning, brings it to a meadow as soon as possible: and this is the method he would, in all cases, recommend for their improvement, as there is never any necessity of tillage in order to bring them to grass.

RELATIVE to the common husbandry of this neighbourhood, I found that the soil is divided, between lime-stone and brown-stone. The peninsula of Mucrufs is half the one and half the other, the one ending suddenly where the other begins: the vale also to Killarney and beyond is limestone for the extent of many miles, and in general the mountains are all brown-stone, and the vales lime-stone. Rents here are about 8s. an acre on an average, including much indifferent land, but not the mountains. About three-fifths of the county of Kerry is waste land, not rising to above 3d. an acre, and the other fifths on an average at 7s. an acre. Farms are from 20l. a year to 130l. the large ones include considerable mountain tracts. The tillage of the country is trifling. The course is,

1. Potatoes, sow eight pecks, at 70 lb. and get 80 lb. at 7l. an acre.
2. Wheat, 6l. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. (Poor crops not above 3l. 10s. an acre)
5. Lay it out to weeds, &c.

LIME the manure, from 60 to 80 barrels an acre, which costs 6d. to 8d. a barrel burning. Mr. Herbert can burn it for 4d. five miles off. Pasturage is applied chiefly to dairies; the common ones about 40 or 50 cows. They are all set at 40s. to 50s. a cow. Three acres allowed to a cow; some paid in butter. The dairyman has his privilege, which is a cabin, potatoe garden, liberty to cut turf, and a quantity of land proportioned to the number of cows. The butter is all sent to Corke on horses backs in truckles, and in that way the poor horses of the country will carry 8 cwt. the distance 37 miles. They go in two days, and generally home in a week. Bring back rum, groceries, &c. they are paid 9d. for carrying a firkin of butter of 56 lb. and for the back carriage 1s. 8d. a cwt. Very few sheep kept; no flocks, except Mr. Herbert's. It is remarkable, that no sheep in the country are better fattened than many upon Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks, which are the wildest and most desolate region of all Kerry. Great herds of goats are kept on all the mountains of this country, and prove of infinite use to the poor people. The inhabitants are not in general well off; some of them have neither cows nor goats, living entirely

tirely upon potatoes, yet are they better than twenty years ago, particularly in cloathing. Price of provision the same as at Nedeem, but pork not common. Turkeys, at 9d. Salmon, at 1d. Trout and perch plentiful. No pike in Kerry. Lampreys and eels, but nobody eats the former. All the poor people, both men and women, learn to dance, and are exceedingly fond of the amusement. A ragged lad, without shoes or stockings, has been seen in a mud barn, leading up a girl in the same trim for a minuet: the love of dancing and musick are almost universal amongst them.

THE Rev. Mr. Bland, of Wood Park, near Killarney, at whose house I had the pleasure to dine with Mr. Herbert, has improved a great deal of boggy land; the turf six inches deep, burnt, but would not give ashes; under it a brown gravel; reclaimed it by marking and trenching in may, lime eighty barrels per acre; spread with green fern, then leave it until spring following, when dunged, and planted, potatoes; the crop equal to the best: dig the potatoes, and plant a second crop, which will be a greater produce, but the roots not so large; took care in the digging them to bring up the sod and manure; in the spring dig again for turneps, or oats, the turneps will be very good, but has generally sown oats; the crop tolerable, great straw, but must be sown very thin, or they will lodge; leave the oat stubble and it becomes in one year grass to mow. Has tried turneps, and found them to answer perfectly, in fattening sheep infinitely better than any winter or spring grass.

SEPTEMBER 30th, took my leave of Mucruis, and passing through Killarney, went to Castle Island. In my way to Arbella, crossed a hilly bog of vast extent, from one to six or seven feet deep, as improveable as ever I saw, covered with bog-myrtle (*myricagale*) and coarse grass: it might be drained at very little expence, being almost dry at present. It amazed me to see such vast tracts in a state of nature, with a fine road passing through them.

To Mr. Blennerhassett, member for the county, I am indebted for every attention towards my information. About Castle Island the land is very good, ranking among the best in Kerry. From that place to Arbella, the land is as good as the management bad, every field over-run with all kinds of rubbish, the fences in ruins, and no appearance but of desolation: they were mowing some fine crops of hay, which I suppose will be made in the snow. The following is the state of husbandry about Arbella.

THE soil, from Castle Island to Tralee, is from a guinea to a guinea and a half; it is all a rich lime-stone land: some about Tralee at 3l. 10s. to 4l. 4s. About Arbella I went over some exceeding fine reddish sandy and gravelly loam, a prodigiously fine soil: fern (*pteris aquilina*) the spontaneous growth, which I remarked in Ireland to be a sure sign of excellent land. Two-thirds of the county is mountain, which runs at no great rent, being thrown into the bargain. Six parts in seven of the whole mountain and bog. The remainder at 10s. an acre.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat, or Barley 4. Oats. 5. Ditto. 6. Ditto. 7. Ditto. 8. Lay it out, and not a blade of grafs comes for three or four years.

THE best part of the country is under dairies. Great farmers hire vast quantities of land, in order to stock with cows, and let them to dairymen; one farmer, who died lately, paid 1400l. a year for this purpose; but 300l. or 400l. common.

THE number of cows let to one man, generally from twenty to forty. Let at one cwt. and 16s. per cow, or one-half cwt. of butter, and 16s. each, some one cwt. 12s. and a hog, besides one-fourth part of all the calves a year old. In the mountains, half cwt. and 5s. Others with all the calves to the dairymen. The dairyman's privilege, from two to four collops kept for them, and one or two acres, with a cabbin; these dairymen live very indifferently, their privilege being all their profit, and sometimes not that. The farmer who lets the cows, must keep the number to such as give two pottles of milk. All the dairies in this county, as in others, in the bonny clobber method, that is, letting the milk stand several days, till the cream comes off, by taking hold of it between the fingers, like a skin of leather, and some till it is moldy, the remainder bonny clobber. Forty acres will carry twenty cows through the year. The cows are in general of the small breed, but not the true Kerry, for many have been brought from other countries. A cow sells at a guinea a pottle for the milk, above two or three pottles, that is 4l. 4s. four pottles, 5l. 5s. for five pottles, given at one meal. A little fattening of cows and small bullocks, but the number not great. No sheep kept.

As to manure none is used in the vale, except their dung for potatoes, but upon the mountains they lime a little.

THERE is a colony of palatines, that have been fixed here above thirty years; there are now fifteen or sixteen families; Colonel Hassel brought them from the county of Limerick, and fixed them here as little farmers, and these few people cost him above 500l. settling. He gave each a cow, a horse, and every thing they wanted for a year, and let the land to them for half its value. Their improvements have been first, by ploughing with a wheel plough, which with two horses works easily without a driver. They brought in cars with wheels, there were only sliding ones before. They also sow all their potatoes in drills with the plough, and also plough them out, and this with great success, but nobody follows them.

YEARS purchase of land sixteen to eighteen. Rents three years ago fallen exceedingly, from having been too high let, but of late they have risen again. The rise in the price of labour from three-pence and four-pence in twenty years, to five-pence and six-pence. Oysters, two-pence to

to three-pence per hundred; near Tradee there is a strand six miles long, which is on a bed of oysters, and is a curious object. Lobsters, twelve years ago, one penny each, now two-pence to four-pence. Salmon, three halfpence. Woodcocks, ten-pence a couple. Partridges, ten-pence a couple. A grouse, one shilling. Whittings, one penny each. Herrings, three a penny. Plaice, turbot, mullets, and some soles. Potatoes, 1s. 6d. per cwt. the cheapest, medium, 2s. 6d. Cabbins of stone, mortar and slate, 25l. Many orchards in this county, give, upon an average, ten hogsheds of cyder per acre, some 15; they reckon young trees the best, from 12 to 20 years old.

THE state of the poor in the whole county of Kerry represented as exceedingly miserable, and, owing to the conduct of men of property, who are apt to lay the blame on what they call land pirates, or men who offer the highest rent, and who, in order to pay this rent, must, and do re-let all the cabin lands at an extravagant rise, which is assigning over all the cabins to be devoured by one farmer. The cottars on a farm cannot go from one to another, in order to find a good master as in England: for all the country is in the same system, and no redress to be found. Such being the case, the farmers are enabled to charge the price of labour as *low* as they please, and rate the land as *high* as they like. This is an evil which oppresses them cruelly, and certainly has its origin in its landlords, when they set their farms, setting all the cabins with them instead of keeping them tenants to themselves. The oppression is, the farmer valuing the labour of the poor at 4d. or 5d. a day, and paying that in land rated much above its value. Owing to this, the poor are depressed; they live upon potatoes and sour milk, and the poorest of them only salt and water to them, with now and then a herring. Their milk is bought; for very few keep cows, scarce any pigs, but a few poultry. Their circumstances are incomparably worse than they were 20 years ago; for they had all cows, but then they wore no linen: all now have a little flax. To these evils have been owing emigrations, which have been considerable.

OCTOBER 1st, rode over the mountain improvements which William Blennerhasset, Esq; of Elm Grove, has made. I viewed it with very great attention: for it projects far into a mountain of heath, that lets only at 1s. an acre. I saw the progress of the improvement in different stages. He has done 250 Irish acres, and inclosed 300 more, and has been offered 20s. an acre for them, but the farm-houses were not built; at present he has four, to which he purposes to throw the whole.

THE method he pursued has been first to enclose with double ditches, four feet deep and five broad, and the earth out of both thrown on to a parapet, ten feet broad, and some more, planted with rows of trees,

trees, and of osiers, the expence in labour, 2s. a perch. While this work is doing, he ploughs nine or ten inches deep, and as soon as the weather will admit, burns; then he tills it again once or twice, and burns again; and before the last ploughing, limes 100 barrels an acre, which costs him (burning it himself) sixpence a barrel, including carriage and spreading: upon this he sows corn, has tried wheat, rye, and oats, but oats answer the best; has tried potatoes, and they did pretty well, followed them with corn, and then *laying it out*, that is, leaving it to grafs itself. The other is to sow corn as long as it will yield any, when it is exhausted, to lay it out two or three years, and then plough and lime: take two crops of corn, and lay it out again; and this way he thinks is the best, from the experience of forty years, for so long the improvement has been making. Trees of all sorts have grown perfectly well, but the ash has done best. A ploughing costs 6s. an acre. Graffaning and burning, 2l. an acre. Mr. Hasslet's stock at present on this farm, 30 horses, mares and foals, 100 cows, 100 sheep, 100 young cattle, 8 plough bullocks: this is a most noble stock of cattle for a spot which was all heath.

MR. Blennerhassett has also tried lime-stone sand, over one part of a field, and lime upon the rest, spread but lately, yet the appearance is much in favour of the sand.

OCTOBER 2d, to Ardfert by Tralee, through a continuation of excellent land, and execrable management. Mr. Bateman tried rock salt on grafs land for a manure, half a ton to the english acre, but found not the least benefit from it. But of lime he has used large quantities, and with great success; burning it for 6d. a barrel, in a standing kiln with turf, four eyes or fires to each; lays on 50 barrels to an acre, and has advanced some land by draining and liming, from 5, to 20s. an acre, the soil a cold stiff clayey gravel.

To the west of Tralee are the Mahagree islands, famous for their corn products; they are rock and sand, stocked with rabbits; near them a sandy tract, 12 miles long, and one mile broad, to the north, with the mountains to the south, famous for the best wheat in Kerry. All under the plough. Their course.

1. Buck potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Wheat. Also corn on some land, without any intermediate crop. Manure for every crop, if potatoes with sea weed, great crops; they get 20 for one of wheat and barley. All grain is remarkably early; they have sown english barley, and made bread of the crop in six weeks; these lands let at 14s. or 15s. an acre, but some much higher. Farms are large, one, two, or three hundred acres, but some are taken in partnership. I was assured, that in these islands, they have known two crops of barley gained from the same land in one year, and the second better than the first. They sowed the first of april, and reaped the middle of may, and immediately sowed a

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second,

second, which they reaped the end of august. This was done by John Macdonald, of Maharaghbeg.

ARRIVING at Ardfert, Lord Crosby, whose politeness I have every reason to remember, was so obliging as to carry me by one of the finest strands I ever rode upon, to view the mouth of the Shannon at Ballengary, the scite of an old fort: it is a vast rock separated from the country by a chasm of a prodigious depth, through which the waves drive. The rocks of the coast here are in the boldest stile, and hollowed by the furious Atlantic waves into caverns in which they roar. It was a dead calm, yet the swell was so heavy, that the great waves rolled in and broke upon the rocks with such violence as to raise an immense foam, and give one an idea of what a storm would be, but fancy rarely falls short in her pictures. The view of the Shannon is exceedingly noble; it is eight miles over, the mouth formed by two headlands of very high and bold cliffs, and the reach of the river in view very extensive: it is an immense scenery. Perhaps the noblest mouth of a river in Europe.

CROSSED in the way a large bog, highly improveable, saw some little spots taken in with heaps of sea sand for carrying it on.

LORD Glendour manures his ground with lime, sea sand, and sea weed; the last is the worst, the sand best. Land lets at 12s. or 13s. an acre on an average; it rises from 10s. to 20s.

ARDFERT is very near the sea, so near it, that single trees or rows are cut in pieces with the wind, yet about Lord Glendour's house there are extensive plantations exceedingly flourishing, many fine ash and beech; about a beautiful cistercian abbey, and a silver fir of 48 years growth, of an immense height and size.

OCTOBER 3d, left Ardfert, accompanying Lord Crosby to Listowel. Called in the way to view Lixnaw, the ancient seat of the earls of Kerry, but deserted for ten years past, and now presents so melancholy a scene of desolation, that it shocked me to see it. Every thing around lies in ruin, and the house itself is going fast off by thieving depredations of the neighbourhood. I was told a curious anecdote of this estate, which shews wonderfully the improvement of Ireland: The present Earl of Kerry's grandfather, Thomas, agreed to lease the whole estate for 1500l. a year, to a Mr. Collis, *for ever*, but the bargain went off upon a dispute, whether the money should be paid at Corke or Dublin. Those very lands are now let at 20,000l. a year. There is yet a good deal of wood, particularly a fine ash grove, planted by the present Earl of Shelburne's father.

PROCEEDED to Woodford, Robert Fitzgerald's, Esq; passing Listowel bridge, the vale leading to it is very fine, the river is broad, the lands high, and one side a very extensive hanging wood, opening on those of Woodford in a pleasing stile.

WOOD-

WOODFORD is an agreeable scene; close to the house is a fine winding river under a bank of thick wood, with the view of an old castle hanging over it. Mr. Fitzgerald is making a considerable progress in rural improvements; he is taking in mountain ground, fencing and draining very completely, and introducing a new husbandry. He keeps 30 pigs, which stock he feeds on potatoes, and has built a piggery for them. Turnips he cultivates for sheep, and finds them to answer perfectly. Not being able to get men who understand hoeing, he thins them by hand. He has five acres of potatoes put in drills with the plough, and designs ploughing them out: they look perfectly well, and promise to be as good a crop as any in the trench way. The common course in this neighbourhood is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Lay it out.

FARMS are very much in partnership, and improvements exceedingly backward on that account. The poor live on potatoes and milk all the year round, but are rather better off than they were twenty years ago. The labour of the country is generally done for land in the manner I have so often described, rated at an exorbitant price, 4d. winter; 5d. summer; some 6d. round. Three-fourths of Kerry mountain and bog, at 1s. 6d. the rest at 1s.

IN 1765, Mr. Fitzgerald was travelling from Constantinople to Warsaw, and a waggon with his baggage, heavily laden, overfet; the country people harnessed two buffaloes *by the horns*, in order to draw it over, which they did with ease. In some very instructive conversation I had with this gentleman, on the subject of his travels, this circumstance particularly struck me.

OCTOBER 4th, from Woodford to Tarbat, the seat of Edward Leslie, Esq; through a country, rather dreary, till it came upon Tarbat, which is so much the contrary, that it appeared to the highest advantage; the house is on the edge of a beautiful lawn, with a thick margin of full-grown wood, hanging on a steep bank to the Shannon, so that the river is seen from the house over the tops of this wood, which being of a broken irregular outline, has an effect very striking and uncommon; the river is two or three miles broad here, and the opposite coast forms a promontory, which has from Tarbat exactly the appearance of a large island. To the east, the river swells into a triangular lake, with a reach opening at the distant corner of it to Limerick: the union of wood, water, and lawn, forms upon the whole a very fine scene; the river is very magnificent. From the hill, on the coast above the island, the lawn and wood appear also to great advantage. But the finest point of view is from the higher hill on the other side of the house, which looking down on all these scenes, they appear as a beautiful ornament to the Shannon, which spreads forth its proud course, from two to nine miles wide, surrounded by highlands: a scenery truly mag-

nificent. I am indebted to Mr. Leslie's good offices for the following particulars.

ARABLE land about Tarbat lets at 14s. on an average; Mr. Leslie, in 1771, let several farms at 17s. but the fall of that period reduced the rents 3s. Farms are from 50 acres to 3 or 400: it is common to have the poor people hire them in partnership, but only the small ones; the large are all stock farms. The tillage course;

1. Potatoes, produce 28 barrels, at 16 pecks each, and the peck 60 lb. or 26,880 lb. in all. 2. Potatoes. 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for several years. The second crop of potatoes more numerous, but not so large; they manure for them only with dung. The oats yield six barrels, each 26 stone, being double ones. Very little wheat sown but by gentlemen or large farmers, who burn the land; plough it, and burn the sod, which they call *beating*, and manure with lime or sea sand; 40 barrels of lime at 1s. The stone is brought from an island towards Limerick. They get sand at the same place. Lime does best for tillage, and sand for grass. The stock farms are either under dairies, or in the succession system, of buying in year olds from the county of Clare, and keeping them till three or four years old, the heifers till they calve; buy at a guinea to 30s. sell from 3l. 5s. to 4l. 10s. at four year old. There are also some cows fattened: bought in in general at 3l. or 3l. 10s. sell in october at 4l. 10s. to 5l. The dairies are set to dairymen, the price is one cwt. of butter, and 10s. to 15s horn money; the dairyman has all the calves, and must sell off at michaelmas. His privilege is a house and potatoe garden, and grass for a cow for every ten. A collop here, is one cow, one horse, two yearlings, six sheep; two acres to feed a collop, and some two and a half. Every cabin has a bit of flax, which they spin and manufacture for their own use, there being some weavers dispersed about the country. A little pound yarn is sold besides to Limerick, but not much. A little wool is spun for their own use, and wove into frize.

THE state of the poor is something better than it was twenty years ago, particularly their cloathing, cattle, and cabbins. They live upon potatoes and milk; all have cows; and when they dry them, buy others. They also have butter, and most of them keep pigs, killing them for their own use. They have also herrings. They are in general in the cottar system, of paying for labour by assigning some land to each cabin. The country is greatly more populous than twenty years ago, and is now increasing; and if ever so many cabbins were built by a gradual increase, tenants would be found for them. A cabin, and five acres of land, will let for 4l. a year. The industrious cottar, with two, three, or four acres, would be exceedingly glad to have his time to himself, and have such an annual addition of land as he was able to manage, paying a fair rent for it; none would decline it but the idle and worthless.

TYTHES

TYTHES are all annually valued by the proctors, and charged very high. There are on the Shannon about 100 boats employed in bringing turf to Limerick from the coast of Kerry and Clare, and in fishing, the former carry from 20 to 25 tons, the latter from five to ten, and are navigated each by two men and a boy.

OCTOBER 5th, passed through a very unentertaining country (except for a few miles on the bank of the Shannon) to Altavilla, but Mr. Bateman being from home, I was disappointed in getting an account of the palatines settled in his neighbourhood. Kept the road to Adair, where Mrs. Quin, with a politeness equalled only by her understanding, procured me every intelligence I wished for.

LAND lets about Adair from 10s. to 40s. an acre, average 20s. the richest in the country is the Corcaffes on the Maag, which let at 30s. to 36s. a tract of five miles long, and two broad, down to the Shannon, which are better than those on that river; the soil is a kind of yellow and blue clay, of which they make bricks; but there is a surface of blue mold. The grass of them is applied to fattening bullocks, from 7 to 8 cwt. each, and an acre fats one, and gives some winter and spring food for sheep. When they break this land up, they sow first oats, and get 20 barrels an acre, or 40 common barrels, and do not reckon that an extra crop; they take ten or twelve in succession, upon one ploughing, till the crops grow poor, and then they sow one of horse beans, which refreshes the land enough to take ten crops of oats more; the beans are very good. Wheat sometimes sown, and the crops very great. Were such barbarians ever heard of?

IN the common course of lands about Adair, the course of crops is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats, 7. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Lay out.

Potatoes they plant on grass without dung, a good crop, 60 barrels to an acre, at 8s. a barrel average. When they hire it they pay six guineas an acre; they dung tillage land and poor lays for them. Of wheat they sow a barrel an acre, and the crop in general eight to ten of those barrels. Oats they sow two to an acre, and get twelve to sixteen. The low bottoms of moory and rushy kind they plough, and burn the furrows; upon that burning they plough in the ashes, and harrow in rape seed, a pottle, or three quarts to an acre; never feed, but keep it for seed, and get eight Bristol barrels an acre; it sells usually at 14s. to 18s. a barrel; they sow bere afterwards, the produce ten barrels an acre; then a crop of oats, twelve to sixteen barrels, and then leave it to lay. No grass seeds sown.

FARMS

FARMS rise from forty acres to 2000l. a year; some few of the little ones are taken by cottars, in partnership, but not common; the large farms are all stock ones. Turneps have been sown many years, but by few; a little on pared and burnt land in the bottoms, instead of rape; the crops very large; they give them all to fat sheep, in order to keep their flesh for a better market after christmas; it is found to be a very advantageous practice, but not increasing. No hoeing. Hemp is sown a little by the palatines, but by few others. Flax, by every cabbin, in order for a little spinning for their own use.

THE system of the stock farmers is in general dairying, but upon the best lands they fatten bullocks, cows being only kept on lands which they think will not do for bullocks. The cows are all let, and paid for, principally by butter, one cwt. to a cow, and 25s. horn money. The dairyman's privilege is a cabbin, a garden of an acre, and the grafs of a cow or horse to every twenty cows, and may rear half the calves, and keep them to november or christmas. To 60 acres, 24 cows, 1 horse, 30 sheep; this is just two acres a head, and it is about the average of the country. The dairymen are not in good circumstances, making a mere living. The swine here are of a large white sort, and rise to two cwt. they are mostly fattened on potatoes, but have some oats at last to harden the fat. A good many sheep; the system is to keep the lambs till three year old weathers, and sell them fat at 20s. each; the fleeces 7lb. Tythes, wheat 6s. barley 5s. Oats 4s. Rape no tythe. Potatoes 8d. to 10d. mowing ground 1s. to 3s. sheep 2d. each.

THE poor people do not all keep cows, but all have milk; all have pigs and poultry; are not better off than twenty years ago. Have a potatoe garden, of which one-half to three-fourths of an acre carries a family through the year; they live entirely upon them, selling their pigs. They pay a guinea for a cabbin, and 10 perch; if half an acre, 2l. 2s. A whole acre, and a cabbin on poor ground, 3l. 3s. but not so cheap if near a village. Labour paid in land in general. Grafs of a collop 2l. 2s. if a cow hayed, 50s.

PALATINES were settled here by the late Lord Southwell, about seventy years ago. They have in general leases for three lives, or 31 years, and are not cottars to any farmer, but if they work for them, are paid in money. The quantities of land are small, and some of them have their feeding land in common by agreement. They are different from the irish in several particulars; they put their potatoes in with the plough, in drills, horse-hoe them while growing, and plough them out. One-third of the dung does in this method, for they put it only in the furrows, but the crops are not so large as in the common method. They plough without a driver; a boy of twelve has been known to plough and drive four horses, and some of them have a hopper in the body of their

their ploughs, which sows the land at the same time it is ploughed. Their course of crops is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.

In which management they keep their land many years, never laying it out as their neighbours do. They preserve some of their German customs sleep: between two beds. They appoint a burgomaster, to whom they appeal in case of all disputes; and they yet preserve their language, but that is declining. They are very industrious, and in consequence are much happier and better fed, cloathed, and lodged, than the irish peasants. We must not, however, conclude from hence that all is owing to this, their being independent of farmers, and having leases, are circumstances which will create industry. Their crops are much better than those of their neighbours. There are three villages of them, about seventy families in all. For some time after they settled, they fed upon four crout, but by degrees left it off, and took to potatoes: but now subsist upon them and butter and milk, but with a great deal of oat bread, and some of wheat, some meat and fowls, of which they raise many. They have all offices to their houses, that is, stables and cow-houses, and a lodge for their ploughs, &c. They keep their cows in the house in winter, feeding them upon hay and oat straw. They are remarkable for the goodness and cleanliness of their houses. The women are very industrious, reap the corn, plough the ground sometimes, and do whatever work may be going on; they also spin, and make their children do the same. Their wheat is much better than any in the country, infomuch that they get a better price than any body else. Their industry goes so far, that jocular reports of its excess are spread: in a very pinching season, one of them yoked his wife against a horse, and went in that manner to work, and finished a journey at plough. The industry of the women is a perfect contrast to the irish ladies in the cabbins, who cannot be persuaded, on any consideration, even to make hay; it not being the custom of the country; yet they bind corn, and do other works more laborious. Mrs. Quin, who is ever attentive to introduce whatever can contribute to their welfare and happiness, offered many premiums to induce them to make hay, of hats, cloaks, stockings, &c. &c. but all would not do.

Few places have so much wood about them as Adair: Mr. Quin has above 1000 acres in his hands, in which a large proportion is under wood. The deer park of 400 acres is almost full of old oak and very fine thorns, of a great size; and about the house, the plantations are very extensive, of elm and other wood, but that thrives better than any other sort. I have no where seen finer than vast numbers here. There is a fine river runs under the house, and within view are no less than
three

three ruins of franciscan friaries, two of them remarkably beautiful, and one has most of the parts perfect, except the roof.

IN Mr. Quin's house, there are some very good pictures, particularly an annunciation, by Dominicino, which is a beautiful piece. It was brought lately from Italy by Mr. Quin, junior. The colours are rich and mellow, and the airs of the heads inimitably pleasing; the group of angels at the top, to the left of the piece, are very natural. It is a piece of great merit. The companion is a magdalen; the expression of melancholy, or rather misery, remarkably strong. There is a gloom in the whole in full unison with the subject. There are, besides these, some others inferior, yet of merit, and two very good portraits of Lord Dartry, (Mrs. Quin's brother) and of Mr. Quin, junior, by Pompeo Battoni. A piece in an uncommon stile, done on oak, of Esther and Ahasuerus: the colours tawdry, but the grouping attitudes and effect pleasing.

OCTOBER 7th, to Castle Oliver, by Bruff, passing through a very fine tract of rich reddish loam. The Right Hon. Mr. Oliver was assiduous to the last degree to have me completely informed. About his seat, the soil is brown stone on indifferent slate strata, mountainous; the mountain tops are thrown into the bargain; mountain farms, tops, bottoms and sides, 1s. an acre; furze land reclaimed, and some from 15s. to 20s. Farms of all sizes, but the occupying tenants have from 15 to 100 acres, some 300. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Potatoes. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out: sometimes only two of potatoes.

THEY manure for potatoes with all the dung they can get. Very little under tillage, and the grass applied chiefly to dairies. In one particular they are very attentive; to conduct the mountain streams into their grass lands; cutting little channels, to introduce the water as much as possible over the whole; and though it comes from a poor mountain of brown stone, or turf, yet the benefit they find to be very great. This is a general custom among all the little occupiers; and they are frequently coming to Mr. Oliver, with complaints of each other for diverting or stealing one another's streams. This is an instance of excellent husbandry, which I do not recollect meeting with before in Ireland. They always mow it the year they water it, and their crops of hay 2 tons, or 2½ an acre. They do not reclaim any mountain, but sometimes a little furze land for potatoes. They have some lime-stone sand; but being at a distance, they use it in small quantities, a few barrels an acre sown for potatoes, which is effectual in preventing them from being wet or rotting. The state of the poor people better in these mountainous tracts than upon the rich flats of Limerick, both from there being more employment and greater plenty of land for them. Some few farms taken in partnership.

nership. The cattle system is generally dairying cows, which are all set to dairymen. There has been a fall in rents since 1771-2, of 2s. 3s. or 4s. an acre, but it is not falling at present. Building a cabin 4l. to 5l. Ditto stone, slate, &c. 25l.

RELATIVE to the rich lands of this country, they are principally found, first in the barony of Small County, which is rich; Coonagh has much; Coshlea a great deal, and much mountain; Clanwilliam, a good share. The rich land reaches from Charleville, at the foot of the mountains, to Tipperary, by Kilfenning, a line of twenty-five miles, and across from Ardpatric to within four miles of Limerick, 16 miles. Bruff, Kilmallock, and Hospital have very good land about them; the quantity in the whole conjectured to be 100,000 acres. It is in general under bullocks, but there is some tillage scattered about, to the amount probably of a fifteenth of the whole; the rents are from 25s. to 40s. but average 30s. an acre.

THE county of Limerick, besides the rich grazing, has a light limestone land for sheep and cows, at 15s. to 20s. There are also yellow clays, from 10s. to 20s. also middling land of furze and fern, from 10s. 6d. to 1l. 1s. Some mountain 1s. likewise fifteen miles of corcassies on the Shannon, two to three miles broad. Average of the whole county, 20s. The county of Tipperary, 18s.

As to the soil I am able to speak of it particularly, for Mr. Oliver was so kind as to ride through a great variety of it, a man with a spade following to dig; the finest soil in the country is upon the roots of mountains; it is a rich, mellow, crumbling, putrid, sandy loam, eighteen inches to three feet deep, the colour a reddish brown. It is dry sound land, and would do for turneps exceedingly well, for carrots, for cabbages, and in a word for every thing. I think upon the whole, it is the richest soil I ever saw, and such as is applicable to every purpose you can wish; it will fat the largest bullock, and at the same time do equally well for sheep, for tillage, for turneps, for wheat, for beans, and in a word, for every crop and circumstance of profitable husbandry.

THE lower lands are wetter, and under them a yellow clay, whereas in the upper, it is sandy loam to a considerable depth. The rent in England would be considerably higher than this of the bullock land in Ireland.

THE farms are of all sizes. The bullock farms rise to 600 acres, which quantity is a large farm; but there are many small ones under cottars and dairymen: the general run in stocking is a bullock of four and a half to seven cwt. average five hundred and a half to the acre, and quarter for the summer's grass; but their not generally having a bullock to an acre, is owing to their keeping sheep and calves so late, in which they do even to June. The winter's hay amounts to about a rood, besides the acre for the summer food. These beasts are bought

in at autumn, at three or four years old, average price, 5l. they are fed regularly through the winter with hay every day in the fields where they are to be fattened in summer; they chuse the dry fields for it, but still mischief is done by it. All the hay is stacked in the fields for this purpose. The time of felling autumn. The profit they make per bullock on an average, about three guineas. The principal winter system is buying calves, at 1l. 1s. to 2l. 2s. keeping them till may, and then felling them at 20s. to 30s. profit, but give them a bellyful of their best hay. A great many sheep are also sent to be wintered from Tipperary, which is extraordinary, as their own lands are much drier than these of Limerick: they do this by hiring farms for the purpose. This is one of the most profitable articles; they bring the spring lambs in october, and keep them till may, and then send them back to Tipperary, and they are much better than those they left there.

THE graziers are many of them rich, but generally speaking, not so much from the immediate profit, as from advantageous leases. I wanted much to be informed of their profit, but it is exceedingly difficult to come near it, for not a grazier in the country but denies his making any thing considerable; this is supposed to be a great piece of art, but I am very apt to think the truth not so far from the declaration, at least as well as I am able to judge from the information I have received.

Rent of an acre and a half for a bullock	-	-	2	12	6
County cefs, at 6d.	-	-	0	0	8
Mowing and making one-third of an acre hay	-	-	0	3	0
A bullock 5l. interest at 6 per cent.	-	-	0	6	0
Labour 1s. 6d an acre	-	-	0	2	3
					<hr/>
					£. 3 4 5
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Profit on a bullock	-	-	3	3	0
Winter food, two sheep at 5s.	-	-	0	10	0
					<hr/>
					3 13 0
Expences	-	-	3	4	5
					<hr/>
Profit	-	-	£. 0	8	7

From this is to be deducted the whole of chances, the loss of cattle, &c. and from what I was able to pick up, I have reason to believe that it does not exceed 10s. an acre, at most. The sum necessary to stock 6l. an acre. I must observe that the profit is very low for land to yield, which is of such extraordinary fertility; it is of that soil which would do very well for tillage, for though it is not dry, yet it has not the wetness of
our

our english clays, and would in a course of good tillage, pay infinitely better as every person must admit who are at all acquainted with the wet lands of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, &c. I am however very far from recommending it, for if the irish tillage should be introduced, the very contrary would be the case, and the landlord suffer exceedingly from his estate being exhausted. In no part of Ireland have I seen more careless management than in these rich lands. The face of the country is that of desolation; the grounds are over-run with thistles, (*carduus*) ragwort, (*senecio jacobæa*) &c. to excess; the fences are mounds of earth, full of gaps; there is no wood, and the general countenance is such, that you must examine into the soil before you will believe that a country, which has so beggarly an appearance, can be so rich and fertile.

To shew the rise of land, Sir Harry Harpison has a farm of 400 acres, which his grandfather let in 1676, at 4s. 6d. an acre, and thought so dear that an offer of a score of sheep and two goats were offered to be off; it would let now at 30s. I had this fact from himself. The breed of cattle here is all long horned. There are some cows fattened also, but not near so many as oxen. Likewise some dairies, which are set, one cwt. butter, and 20s. horn money. The dairyman's privilege is two or three cows, a cabin and a garden. The number of cows seldom above a score: but they are found so troublesome and imposing, that they have taken a different method, and employed dairywomen on their own account.

GREAT quantities of flax sown by all the poor and little farmers, which is spun in the country, and a good deal of bundle cloth made of it. This and pigs are two great articles of profit here; they keep great numbers, yet the poor in this rich tract of country are very badly off. Land is so valuable, that all along as I came from Bruff, their cabins are generally in the road ditch, and numbers of them without the least garden; the potatoe land being assigned them upon the farm where it suits the master best. The price they pay is very great, from 4l. to 5l. an acre, with a cabin; and for the grafs of a cow, 40s. to 45s. They are, if any thing, worse off than they were twenty years ago. A cabin, an acre of land, at 40s. and the grafs of two cows, the recompence of the year's labour: but are paid in different places by an acre of grafs for potatoes at 5l. Those who do not get milk to their potatoes, eat mustard with them, raising the seed for the purpose. The population of the country increases exceedingly, but most in the higher lands; new cabins are building every where. The tillage in these rich lands consists in,

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.
1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. (On spots $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ acre flax after the 2d Potatoes). 3. Wheat. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats.
9. Lay it out.

MR. Oliver has known 150 Bristol barrels, each four bushels heaped of potatoes, which make six bushels, or 900 from an acre. The weight, strike measure, 15 stone. The common crop, 150 heaped barrels, at 4s. average price. Opinions differ much, whether the second crop is better or worse, but from one practice they have, I am clear which it must be; for they trust to the small potatoes left in the ground as seed, which are necessarily irregular: and I have found, by various trials, that a slice of a middling potatoe is far better than a whole small one.

POTATOES.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	13	8
Seed, sixteen barrels and a half, at 10s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	15	0
Cutting seed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	6
Digging	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	14	0
Carrying out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Trenching and sowing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	0
Weeding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Digging out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Gathering	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Carrying home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	6
Houfing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	6	0
Picking	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Tythe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	12	0
									<hr/> £. 15 3 2 <hr/>		

CROP.

One hundred and fifty barrels, at 4s. each	-	-	-	30	0	0
Expences	-	-	-	15	3	2
Profit				14	16	10
				<hr/>		
One hundred barrels, at 4s. each	-	-	-	20	0	0
Expences	-	-	-	15	3	2
Profit				£. 4	16	10
				<hr/>		

The Bristol barrel, which is here charged at 4 s. is heaped, and weights 22 stone. The quality of the corn raised on these rich lands is much better than any other in the country; the quantity of barley, per acre, 12 Bristol barrels.

MR. Ryves, a gentleman of the neighbourhood, I had the pleasure of meeting at Castle Oliver: on $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres sowed nine bushels of bere, from which

which 111 Bristol barrels, striked measure. Of wheat, the crops fluctuating, but a middling one 12 barrels. Mr. Ryves has had 20 of oats, generally 15. All these crops are with good tillage; there are many who do not get near so much.

THERE is a bolting mill at Limerick, at Annsgrove, at Marlefield, at Clonmell, at Castle Hyde, at Newport: hence therefore there is no want of a market in this country for corn. I was surprized to find that land, in this rich country, sells at as many years purchase as in mountain tracts. Limerick is famous for cyder; the finest cakaggee is at Mr. Waller's, Mr. Massey's, Mr. Westrope's, Mr. Monson's, &c. The soil of the orchards thin, on lime-stone.

MRS. Oliver has practised husbandry on a pretty extensive scale. A considerable part of his land is improved mountain, which he grubbed and cleared of spontaneous rubbish, and manured with lime-stone sand; and then cultivated some for corn, and some for turneps: where the land is boggy, he burns, in order to get rid of that soil which he considers as worth but little. Whatever he sows, the land runs at once immediately to thick fine grass, even on the mountain top; so that a stubble will, in the first year, yield a great crop of hay. A strong proof how adapted this country is to pasturage. In the breed of cattle he has been very attentive, purchasing bulls and cows, at the expence of twenty guineas each, of the long horned Lancashire breed, and from them has bred others. I saw two exceeding well-made bulls of a year old of his breeding, which would have made a considerable figure in Leicestershire. Turnips he has cultivated for many years, applying them chiefly to feeding deer, but he has fattened some sheep on them with good success. Hollow draining he has practised upon an extensive scale, and laid a large tract of wet land dry by it.

MRS. Oliver planted a colony of palatines 15 years ago, from about Rathkeal, 66 families in one year, which made 700 protestants, on his own estate. Fixed them upon spots, of from thirteen to thirty acres each, charging them only two-thirds of the rent, which he could get of others; built houses for them at the expence of above 500 l. gave them leases for three lives. The benefit of them has been introducing much tillage; to the proportion of their little farms, they till much more than the irish. They drill their potatoes, and on stubble land worn out. House their cattle, feeding them with hay, and raising thereby dung. They are cleaner and neater, and live much better; are better clothed, and all of them have neat little kitchen gardens. Many of them labour for nobody but themselves, and none of them constantly for others, being employed principally on their own little farms. They live partly on four crout.

CASTLE Oliver is a place almost entirely of Mr. Oliver's creation; from a house, surrounded with cabbins and rubbish, he has fixed it in a fine lawn, surrounded

rounded by good wood. The park he has very much improved on an excellent plan; by means of seven feet hurdles, he fences off part of it that wants to be cleaned or improved, these he cultivates, and leaves for grass, and then takes another spot, which is by much the best way of doing it. In the park is a glen, an english mile long, winding in a pleasing manner, with much wood hanging on the banks. Mr. Oliver has conducted a stream through this vale, and formed many little water-falls in an exceeding good taste, chiefly over-hung with wood, but in some places open with several little rills, trickling over stones down the slopes. A path winds through a large wood and along the brow of the glen; this path leads to an hermitage, a cave of rock, in a good taste, and to some benches, from which the views of the water and wood are in the sequestered stile they ought to be. One of these little views, which catches several falls under the arch of the bridge, is one of the prettiest touches of the kind I have seen. The vale beneath the house, when viewed from the higher grounds, is pleasing; it is very well wooded, there being many inclosures, surrounded by pine trees, and a thick fine mass of wood rises from them up the mountain side, makes a very good figure, and would be better, had not Mr. Oliver's father cut it into vistas for shooting. Upon the whole, the place is highly improved, and when the mountains are planted, in which Mr. Oliver is making a considerable progress, it will be magnificent.

IN the house are several fine pictures, particularly five pieces by Seb. Ricci, Venus, and Æneas; Apollo and Pan, Venus and Achilles; and Pyrrhus and Andromache, by Lazzerini; and the rape of the Lapithi, by the centaurs: the last is by much the finest, and is a very capital piece; the expression is strong, the figures are in bold relief, and the colouring good. Venus and Achilles is a pleasing picture; the continence of Scipio is well grouped, but Scipio, as in every picture I ever saw of him, has no expression. Indeed, chastity is in the countenance so *passive* a virtue as not to be at all suited to the genius of painting; the idea is rather that of insipidity, and accordingly Scipio's expression is generally insipid enough. Two fine pieces, by Lucca Jordano, Hercules and Anteus; Sampson killing the lion: both dark and horrid, but they are highly finished, and striking. Six heads of old men, by Nogari, excellent; and four young women, in the character of the seasons.

OCTOBER 9th, left Castle Oliver. Had I followed my inclination, my stay would have been much longer, for I found it equally the residence of entertainment and instruction. Passed through Kilfennan and Duntreleague, in my way to Tipperary. The road leads every where on the sides of the hills, so as to give a very distinct view of the lower grounds; the soil all the way is the same sort of sandy reddish loam I have already described, incomparable land for tillage: as I advanced, it grew something lighter, and in many places free from gravel. Bullocks the stock all the way. Towards Tipperary I saw vast numbers of sheep, and many bullocks. All this line of country is part of the famous golden vale. To Thomas Town, where I was so unfortunate as not to find Mr. Matthew at home; the domain is 1500 english acres, so well planted,

planted, that I could hardly believe myself in Ireland. There is a hill in the park, from which the view of it, the country and the Galties, are striking.

To the Earl of Clanwilliam's, where I was particularly fortunate in meeting Messrs. Macarthy and Keating, sons to two of the greatest farmers that ever were in Ireland. The country is all under sheep, and the soil dry sandy loam. The sheep system of Tipperary is to breed and keep the lambs till three-year old wethers, fat, and sell them at 26s. at an average; keep the ewe lambs, and cull the old stock, selling an equal number of fat ewes at three to four years old, the average price 20s. in October, the wool of all the stock in general amounts to three fleeces, per stone, of 16 lb. or 6s. a head. From hence to Clonmell, there are many sheep; to Cullen in Killkenny, three or four miles beyond Thurles, within two miles of Cullen, three or four and twenty miles N. to S. and from Cullen to within three miles of Cullen, which is 30: generally speaking, this is all sheep, but there are many spots in it where bullocks are fed. The stock mixed with sheep are usually calves, bought in at six to eight months, 30s. to 40s. average 32s. and when they are three year old, send them to the richer lands in the county of Limerick, (where every Tipperary grazier has a farm) to fat. When they have not enough of their own rearing, they buy three-year olds at Ballynasloe, and fatten them in Limerick. In general, this land will carry three to five sheep to the acre, and bear some calves besides. One acre and three quarters a bullock the year through, one half for hay.

Arrangement of a flock of 2,500 sheep.

500 ewes					
500 lambs					
500 hoggarts					
500 two-year olds					
250 fat wethers					
250 ewes, added to stock, instead of 250 older ones sold off					
<hr/>					
2500 at 5 to an acre	500 acres				
<hr/>					
250 fat wethers, at 26s.	-	-	-	324	18 0
250 culled ewes, at 20s.	-	-	-	250	0 0
2000 fleeces, at 6s.	-	-	-	600	0 0
				<hr/>	
				£. 1174 18 0	
				<hr/>	

A part of the stock of fat wethers is kept over from October to the spring, for the Dublin market, not merely for the high price, but because underlings, and not fat in autumn, and sell for less than the rest, seldom more than 19s. or 20s. To 3000 sheep a grazier in this neighbourhood has 30 acres of turnips, in order to feed this part of his wether stock

stock with. Mr. Macarthy with 8000 sheep, has seldom more than 30 acres. This system will be further explained by Mr. Allen's stock,

1,200 acres—2,000 sheep, besides lambs—Sells 200 four year-old wethers, at 26s.—200 three-year olds, at 26s.—200 barren ewes, at 18s.—2,000 fleeces, at 5s.—400 two-year olds—400 year olds—500 Brood ewes—500 lambs—Land to feed this flock, 1000 acres. Also 120 bullocks—40 cows and spayed heifers and working bullocks for work, and milk breeding.—30 horses, mares, &c.—30 labourers, 5 shepherds—20 acres of wheat—10 barley—10 oats—10 turneps—8 potatoes—60 mowing ground—Rent of this large tract of sheep-land from 20 to 25s. an acre.

FARMS are generally large, commonly 3 or 4000 acres, and rise up to 10,000, of which quantity there is one farm, this is Mr. Macarthy's, of Spring House, near Tipperary, and is I suppose the most considerable one in the world. Here are some of the particulars of it:

9,000 acres in all—10,000l. rent—8,000 sheep—2,000 lambs—550 bullocks—80 fat cows—20,000l. value of stock—200 yearlings—200 two-year olds—200 three-year olds—80 plough bullocks—180 horses, mares and foals—150 to 200 labourers—200 acres tillage.

Mr. Richard Dogherty, of Locklogher, 76 bags of wool at 500lb. to 600lb. this year. Loss of sheep and cattle one-half per cent. No folding. For hiring and stocking, 5l. an acre. A shepherd is allowed four cows, a horse, a cabin, and three acres of garden, and as much hay as they like for their cattle.

SLAUGHTER at Corke of cows and bullocks undoubtedly much lessened. The increase of tillage is in Tipperary owing to bolting mills.

THE quantity of tillage in this country trifling, but the crops are large; there are several courses. The turnep husbandry often upon burnt land, some on lime and fallow, and some on fallow alone.

1. Turneps. 2. Fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats. 10. Lay it out.

1. Turneps. 2. Fallow. 3. Potatoes. 4. Bere. 5. Wheat. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats.

1. Burn for rape seed. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. Lay out. And sometimes they take two crops of wheat. They never hoe turnips.

Mr. Dexter of Cullen, had a ram, half a guinea a leap, and great numbers of ewes were sent to him, the breed much improving.

POTATOES, average produce, 80 to 100 Bristol barrels, at 5s. average price, and the poor people pay 5 to 6 guineas for land. They often take two crops with adding some seed, pay the same price for the second; they pay this price for turnep land burnt; grafs potatoes not generally known. The quantity of wheat 10 barrels to 15.—Bere 15 to 18.—Barley 12 to 18.—Oats 12 to 15. Their turnips they seldom sow before the

12th of July. Their manures are lime and lime-stone gravel, the gravel for crops, and lime for grafs; they use it on lime-stone land, and with great success. The soil a mellow, dry sandy, or gravelly loam, on lime-stone or lime-stone gravel. Much bog in this country, that of Allen comes in a line through the Queen's County to within three miles of Cashel. One-fifth of Tipperary, mountain, the rest 20s. an acre. Land sells at 20 years purchase. Rents have fallen four or five shillings an acre since 1771 and 1772.

Price of Cattle.

Yearling bullock, 3l. to 3l. 10s. Store bullock, 6l. to 7l. Fat ditto, 10l. to 12l. Profit on a bullock, 4l. to 4l. 10s. A bullock fat of ten guineas, weighs 6 cwt.

NEWTOWN, 250 acres, a farm of Mr. Dogherty's, under bullocks from may to november, and 1100 lambs all winter through.

I had heard much of the late Mr. Keating's farm, of Garranlad, as the largest that ever was; his son gave me the following particulars of it:

10,000l. a year rent. 13,800 irish acres. 3,000 head of black cattle. 16,300 sheep. 300 horses. 500 couple of ducks. 300 turkies. 90 hog-heads of cyder a year. He had most of the ground from Golding to Clonmell. Collops here in order are, 1 horse. 6 sheep. 1 cow. 1 fat bullock. 2 yearlings. 3 calves.

To Cullen, Newtown, Palace, Carrick on Lish, rents 30's. an acre. Respecting the state of the poor in this country they are paid by a cabin, and one acre and a half of land, for which they are reckoned 4l. and for grafs of a cow 2l. 2s. They live upon potatoes and milk; generally have cows, but not all, and those who have not, buy, but very many of them have for the half year, only potatoes and salt. They all keep pigs. They are just as they were 20 years ago. Prices, wheat 1s. 1d. per stone. English barley, 10d. Oats, 6d. Bere, 7d. Hay 1l. 2s. 9d. a ton.

RAPE is very commonly sown upon burnt land; they never feed it, but let it stand for seed, of which they get 12 to 15 barrels, and it sells at 16s. a barrel. Burning I should explain, is only the remaining turf after two ploughings, the first in november, and after christmas a cross ploughing; harrow in march, and burn in may.

ACCOMPANIED Lady Clanwilliam in a drive through her plantations; she has planted a broad margin for several miles round a domain, (which his Lordship walled in with intention of building) and done it with equal taste and success. The attention she has given to this rational amusement, and the sensible and agreeable manner in which she renders every tree interesting by her descriptions and remarks, are formed to set off a female character in a light at least as respectable and as amiable as the most brilliant exhibition that a capital can

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witness.

witness. The twig which she plants with her hand, and nourishes by her care, will not disappoint her in the pleasure she expects; it will thrive with her attention, and greet her with its friendly shade: when will Dublin prove as grateful?

OCTOBER 12th, to Lord de Montalt's, at Dundrum, a place which his Lordship has ornamented in the modern stile of improvement: the house was situated in the midst of all the regular exertions of the last age. Parterres, parapets of earth, straight walks, knots and clipt hedges, all which he has thrown down, with an infinite number of hedges and ditches, filled up ponds, &c. and opened one very noble lawn around him, scattered negligently over with trees, and cleared the course of a choaked up river, so that it flows at present in a winding course through the grounds. He continues this work of dressing the fields contiguous to him, to give them a neat appearance, and advances in it every year, even his tillage lands are all kept in the same neat manner, with fences new done, and the whole carrying the most cultivated appearance.

His Lordship's system of husbandry is an admirable one; it is in the great outline to take farms into his own hands, as the leases expire, to keep them for improvement, and when done to relet them. This is the true agriculture for profit for a landlord; he has upon this system improved near 2000 acres. Throwing down the old miserable fences which split the farms into little scraps of fields, and made new ditches for drains and water-courses, disposed the new fields to the best advantage, drained them with stone drains where wet, broke up such of the grass as was bad, cultivated it enough to bring it into proper order, and laid it down again to meadow; there cannot be a better system, or more calculated at the same time to ornament a country, and improve his own estate.

His Lordship has also followed several practices in farming, which have proved of great service; among others, keeping hogs upon clover. He had a mind to shew the countryman that they might keep many hogs (a very advantageous stock to them) by means of clover; he kept four sows and twenty-four pigs the summer through on one acre, by which he made 10l. produce. A clear proof that the husbandry would be highly advantageous with this view.

TURNIPS he cultivates upon a very large scale; was the first who had them here on stubbles; he has thirty or forty acres, and every year has a large quantity; drills them with a very cheap simple drill, his own invention, and thins them out by hand, or hoes them. I viewed his crop, and found them very regular, and of a good size; with the leaves of the whole of a remarkable deep green, without any yellow ones: more so, I think, than is common in England, and I observed the same circumstance with the other crops I saw. He uses them for feeding and fattening sheep, giving them on dry grass land; also for stall-feeding
bullocks,

bullocks, and finds the advantage of both uses so great, that he does not know what he should do without them.

IN the winter management of his cattle, he proceeds on very different principles from what is common in Ireland; instead of feeding them abroad, and for that purpose stacking the hay about the fields, he ties them up in stalls, of which he has many, and is erecting more: he ties up above 100 head, in which he finds the greatest advantage, both in the cattle, saving food, and yielding dung. The breed of sheep he has begun to change, from the long-legged Tipperary to the short legs of Leicestershire; has several tups of that breed, and finds that the change is of the highest consequence. Folding he has practiced with the greatest success. The breed of hogs he has also changed to the Berkshire, and has one of the finest boars of that breed I have seen.

CABBAGES he cultivated for several years, but finds them burst too soon to be of considerable use; turnips much better: but Reynolds' turnip-cabbage he finds excellent for late spring food; has eight acres of very fine ones this year, which cost him just 20*l.* labour of manuring included.

LORD de Montalt keeps 2000 acres in his hands, 1500 sheep, 40 plough bullocks, 12 cows, &c. His Lordship, for the purpose of draining his clay lands, ploughs and shovels them up into broad highlands, so as to form regular segments of circles, in the manner practised in some counties in England: he does this that the furrows may be drains to the land, for french drains will not run, owing to the stiffness of the clay. He has not much of this land, however; for in general his soil is the rich reddish sandy loam of the golden vale. He does much of his ploughing with the plough of Warwick and Shropshire, and finds it answers very well.

THE mountain lands of Tipperary one-seventh of the county, the rest lets at 20*s.* an acre on an average. There is some woollen manufactory scattered through it, especially at Thurles, Tipperary, Clonmell, &c. Mr. John Fenning, near Colchin, employs 30 combers. The year's purchase of land 20, was 25 some years ago. The fall owing partly to the expectation of an absentee land-tax.

OCTOBER 13th, leaving Dundrum, passed through Cashel, where is a rock and ruin on it, called the rock of Cashel, supposed to be of the remotest antiquity. Towards Clonmell, the whole way through the same rich vein of red sandy loam I have so often mentioned: I examined it in several fields, and found it to be of an extraordinary fertility, and as fine turnip land as ever I saw. It is much under sheep; but towards Clonmell there is a great deal of tillage.

THE first view of that town backed by a high ridge of mountains, with a beautiful space near it of inclosures, fringed with a scattering of trees, was very pleasing. It is the best situated place in the county of Tip-

perary, on the Sure, which brings up boats of ten tons burthen. It appears to be a busy populous place, yet I was told that the manufacture of woollens is not considerable. It is noted for being the birth-place of the inimitable Sterne. Within two miles of it is Marlesfield, the seat of Stephen Moore, Esq; celebrated in Ireland for his uncommon exertions in every branch of agriculture. It was not without the greatest concern that I found him absent. Seeing this Gentleman however in London afterwards, he was kind enough to favour me with the following particulars :

His mill was built seven years ago, and cost 15,000 l. the wages of the millers, including candles, coals, soap, tallow, &c. 7 or 800 l. a year: it contains 9 stones for wheat, and 4 for oatmeal: it has a very complete apparatus for sifting, cleaning, &c. and granaries of uncommon magnitude, holding 10,000 barrels: began to be worked with only 3,000 barrels of wheat in a year, which has risen gradually to 20,000 barrels in 1776, a very strong proof of the great increase of tillage in the neighbourhood. Very much of it is between Clonmell and Cashel, in which tract there was formerly more sheep in one parish, than now in three; also much in the Corke road to Cloheen, but no mountain-heath ground improved. The change has been from sheep and bullocks. He has a prospect of doing yet more, and at the same time that other mills have been erected that grind much, perhaps the whole is not short of 40,000 barrels. The farmers do not bring their wheat from a greater distance than 16 miles. Mr. Moore finds it necessary to kiln-dry all. I mentioned to him the bad colour of all the wheat in his own, and every other mill in Ireland, he attributed it only to wet harvests. He sends his flour to Dublin, on the bounty, which rather more than pays the expence of carriage 6d. per cwt. Never exports on his own account, but sends a little to Waterford. It goes to Dublin in cars, which takes each eight to ten cwt. that is from four to five bags. He used to pay 3s. a cwt. in winter, and 3s. 6d. in summer for 84 miles, but now the price is 2s. 6d. in summer, and 3s. in winter. Mr. Moore tried english broad wheeled waggons, with high priced strong horses, but they did not answer at all: he has found the cars to carry much greater loads.

He has not found that the premium has overstocked the Dublin market, which he attributes to there being an export from Dublin, notwithstanding such exported corn receives no bounty. The bran Mr. Moore applies to breeding and fattening hogs, contrary to the practice of most other mills, who having tried it, have given that practice up. He has thirty breeding sows and six hundred pigs, which are fed and fattened entirely on it, and the fat is firm and good. The price of bran is 1s. 1d. the six stone, and the hogs answer so well, that he would contract for other bran to be delivered him at that price, in order to use it in this manner. He does not depend entirely on breeding his own, but buys many stores.

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He is entirely in the Berkshire breed, which he finds much superior to the irish. I observed his hogs, and thought them very fine ones. His sows bring three litters each, seven pigs on an average, in a year and a quarter; sells them at half a year to two years old, putting them to fat as soon as they have done growing; but when there is a great demand, fats them young. The average fat pig, two cwt. at from 20s. to 30s. a cwt. medium 25s. The dung is a considerable profit; he finds it beyond any other. He has given bran also to fattening store cattle, having built stalls for that purpose; gives them hay till when near fat, then leaves off the hay. His working horses are fed on bran entirely, no oats.

MR. Moore contracts for biscuit, which he bakes in large quantities, and bread for the whole town of Clonmell. He has eight ovens going for biscuit. Starch he also makes large quantities of. Adjoining his flour mill, he has erected a rape mill, for making oil; the seed is all raised in the neighbourhood. The cake sells at 48s. a ton, and is exported, some to Holland, but most to England, for manure. He has tried feeding beasts with it, but it will not do at all: they would have died. This fact has long been known in England. It is the cake of lint seed that fattens. We have, however, very florid writers of *this* age, who speak of oxen fattening on *rape* cake as a common thing.

MR. Moore's husbandry is also worthy of considerable notice. His principal attention has been given to cattle; seventeen years ago he imported Leicestershire rams, Northampton stallions. and a Craven bull from England, and has at different times since had bulls from Bakewell and others, and has himself sold yearling bull calves, from 10l. to 30l. a piece, and rams from 10l. to 40l. Long experience has told him that the long horned Craven breed of cattle is preferable to any other. I enquired particularly into the quantity of milk, because the common objection is their not giving much. Sir William Osborne, as well as Mr. Moore, assured me that he had seen one of them milked, and the milk measured seventeen quarts at one meal; but the average six to ten quarts at a meal, which is neither better nor worse than the common cows of the country: but the milk is much better and thicker, and yields more butter than that of the Holderneffe. I examined his bulls, cows, and oxen, with attention; he has a bull which deserves every commendation for shape; and three or four out of six or seven prime cows I saw, were very beautiful ones.

OF sheep he keeps 1000, that is 200 ewes, 200 year-olds; 200 two-year olds; 200 barren ewes, and 200 lambs. He sells every year 200 two-year old fat wethers, and 100 barren ewes; the wethers in october, at 28s. and the ewes in the spring, at 25s. His fleeces are 7lb. each on an average, at 1s. per lb.

TURNIPS he has cultivated for some years, up to 30 acres in a year, broad cast, has not hoed, from finding them very good without. He both draws and feeds on the land. He has had cabbages also, but never
more

more than two acres, finds them more expensive, but do not go so far as turnips.

To Sir William Osborne's, three miles the other side Clonmell. From a character so remarkable for intelligence and precision, I could not fail of meeting information of the most valuable kind. This gentleman has made a mountain improvement which demands particular attention, being upon a principle very different from common ones.

TWELVE years ago he met with a hearty looking fellow of forty, followed by a wife and six children in rags, who begged. Sir William questioned him upon the scandal of a man in full health and vigour, supporting himself in such a manner: the man said he could get no work: *Come along with me, I will shew you a spot of land upon which I will build a cabbin for you, and if you like it you shall fix there.* The fellow followed Sir William, who was as good as his word: he built him a cabbin, gave him five acres of a heathy mountain, lent him four pounds to stock with, and gave him, when he had prepared his ground, as much lime as he would come for. The fellow flourished; he went on gradually; repaid the four pounds, and presently became a happy little cottar: he has at present twelve acres under cultivation, and a stock in trade worth at least 80 l. his name is John Conory.

THE success which attended this man in two or three years, brought others, who applied for land, and Sir William gave them as they applied. The mountain was under lease to a tenant, who valued it so little, that upon being reproached with not cultivating, or doing something with it, he assured Sir William, that it was utterly impracticable to do any thing with it, and offered it to him without any deduction of rent. Upon this mountain he fixed them; gave them terms as they came determinable with the lease of the farm, so that every one that came in succession had shorter and shorter tenures; yet are they so desirous of settling, that they come at present, though only two years remain for a term.

In this manner Sir William has fixed twenty-two families, who are all upon the improving hand, the meanest growing richer; and find themselves so well off, that no consideration will induce them to work for others, not even in harvest: their industry has no bounds; nor is the day long enough for the revolution of their incessant labour. Some of them bring turf to Clonmell, and Sir William has seen Conory returning loaded with soap ashes.

He found it difficult to persuade them to make a road to their village, but when they had once done it, he found none in getting cross roads to it, they found such benefit in the first. Sir William has continued to give them whatever lime they come for; and they have desired 1000 barrels among them for the year 1766, which their landlord has accordingly contracted for with his lime-burner, at 11 d. a barrel. Their
houses

houses have all been built at his expence, and done by contract at 6l. each, after which they raise what little offices they want for themselves.

SIR William being prejudiced against the custom of burning land, insisted that they should not do it, which impeded them for some time ; but upon being convinced that they could not go on well without it, he relaxed, and since that they have improved rapidly. He has informed them, that upon the expiration of the lease, they will be charged something for the land, and has desired that they will mark out each man what he wishes to have ; they have accordingly run divisions, and some of them have taken pieces of 30 or 40 acres : a strong proof that they find their husbandry beneficial and profitable. He has great reason to believe that nine-tenths of them were white boys, but are now of principles and practice exceedingly different from the miscreants that bear that name. The lime Sir William gives them for the first breaking up, and the quantity they chuse is 40 barrels an acre, so that all the expence is 6l. for the house, and 1l. 16s. 8d. an acre for the land they improve. He has little doubt but they will take the whole mountain among them, which consists of 900 acres. Their course of tillage is,

1. Potatoes on the burning, generally *turks*, (clustered) and great crops. 2. Rye. 3. Oats, and then leave it out ; the grass is,

THEIR cattle are feeding on the mountain in the day, but of nights they house them in little miserable stables. All their children are employed regularly in their husbandry, picking stones, weeding, &c. which shows their industry strongly ; for in general they are idle about all the country. The women spin.

Too much cannot be said in praise of this undertaking. It shows that a reflecting penetrating landlord can scarcely move without the power of creating opportunities to do himself and his country service. It shows that the villainy of the greatest miscreants, is all situation and circumstance : EMPLOY, don't *hang* them. Let it not be in the slavery of the cottar system, in which industry never meets its reward, but by giving property, teach the value of it ; by giving them the fruit of their labour, teach them to be laborious. All this Sir William Osborne has done, and done it with effect, and there probably is not an honest set of families in the county than those which he has formed from the refuse of the white boys.

SUPPOSE he builds a house to every twenty acres, and limes that quantity of land, the expence would be a few shillings over 40l. or 40s. an acre. If they pay him 2s. 4d. an acre for the land, he will make just 6l. per cent. for his money : a most striking proof of the immense profit which attends mountain improvements of every kind, because instead of 2s. 4d. they would consider 6s. or 7s. as a rent of favour. 4s. 8d. is 12 per cent. for his money ; 7s is 18 per cent. Yet in spite of such facts do the lazy, trifling, inattentive, negligent, *slobbering*, profligate owners
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of irish mountains leave them, as they received them, from the hands of their ancestors, in the possession of grous and foxes. Shame to such a spiritless conduct!

ONE-THIRD of Waterford mountain at 6d. an acre, and two-thirds at 7s. Twenty miles on the coast in length, and eight or ten in breadth, is under dairies, of which the rent per acre is little known, farms being paid for by the cows they will maintain, at 50s. each. These dairies rise to 50 and even 100 cows. They all keep great numbers of hogs, which increase every day from the high price. The state of the poor people much better than formerly; they used to have one acre of potatoes, and the grafs of one cow for their year's labour, and no more, and were much greater slaves than at present.

TILLAGE does not thrive in the county; it has, however, increased pretty much about Dungarvon, from whence there has been a tolerable export of corn; not only from its neighbourhood, but also from a distance, owing to the mobs of Clonmel and Carrick stopping corn going to Waterford, which has injured the latter town.

OCTOBER 15th, left New Town, and keeping on the banks of the Sure, passed through Carrick to Curraghmore, the seat of the Earl of Tyrone. This line of country, in point of soil, inferior to what I have of late gone through: so that I consider the rich country to end at Clonmell. For the following account of the husbandry of the county of Waterford I am obliged to the attention of Lord Tyrone, who omitted no means of informing me accurately.

THAT county is divided into very large farms, and the renters of them keep cows generally, which they let to dairymen. One farmer, Mr. Peor, has 2000 cows, and pays 2000l. a year, but they rarely let more to one man than 50 cows, usually about 20; many of these men pay weekly, and others quarterly: the rent from 50s. to 3l. 5s. no such thing as horn-money. The dairyman's privilege is a house and two or three acres of land, or a horse and two cows in twenty. They make nothing but butter, and all keep hogs; but do not feed them with milk, selling it all; 1,300 to 1,500 churns full of milk, each eight gallons, goes into Waterford every day in the year, and a prodigious quantity to Carrick. The county is by far the greatest dairying one in Ireland. The breed is the common mountain cow, poor to look at, but great milkers, five or six pottles at a meal common. Price of them 5l. at an average. Average rent of all the land under cows, 10s. One-third of the county mountain, at 6d. the other two-thirds, at 10s. Along the blackwater, good land, and four miles round Waterford, 20s. or 25s. The quantity for a cow from two to four acres. They generally breed their own by rearing a few calves every year; the young stock are kept on the mountains in summer, and in the worst of the low land in winter. They never feed their cows with any hay, except in very severe weather. No other stock but cows.

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THE soils are various at this end of the county, clay and shingly slate, with a reddish mold upon it and gravelly loams. At the other end, they have lime-stone lands. They have, however, about Curraghmore lime-stone gravel of a stiff nature. Lime at the kiln 9d. a barrel; Lord Tyrone pays 1s. for the stone, and 2s. 8d. a barrel for the culm, and pays 2d. a barrel for breaking and burning, all which make 9d. Every barrel of culm gives seven of lime; a ton of stone produces four barrels of lime: the barrel of lime four cubical feet. Not a thirtieth part of the country under the plough. The tillage consists only of little patches broken up by the cabbins; it has been increasing these 15 years: but the principal increase has been within these ten years. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley, or oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats: continued while the land yields. Wheat is coming in. Some who till large fields, and do not take so many crops. About Dungarvon, there are many potatoes planted, which are sent to Dublin in boats, with loads of birch brooms, and they are said to be loaded with *fruit* and *timber*. But in no part of the county do they plant grass potatoes: they plant many of the bull or turk sort for their pigs, but they are reckoned an unwholesome sort for the people to feed on. Paring and burning land was common before the law passed against it, but of late very little. Upon the coast there is a great deal of sea weed and sea sand, especially beyond Dungarvon and Waterford. Flax is scarcely any where sown. The poor people feed on potatoes and milk; most of them have cows; many of them for a part of the year only salt: but they have oat bread when potatoes are not in season. They all keep pigs, but never eat them. Their circumstances are in general greatly better than they were twenty years ago, both in food and cloathing; they have now all shoes and stockings, and are decently dressed every funday. No hats among the women, and it is the same in other parts. Their labour is valued, and they are paid the amount in land. The religion of the lower classes is the roman catholic.

EMIGRATIONS from this part of Ireland principally to Newfoundland, for a season; they have 18l. or 20l. for their pay, and are maintained, but they do not bring home more than 7l. to 11l. Some of them stay and settle; three years ago there was an emigration of indented servants to North Carolina, of 300, but they were stopped by contrary winds, &c. There had been something of this constantly, but not to that amount. The oppression which the poor people have most to complain of, is the not having any tenures in their lands, by which means they are entirely subject to their employers.

MANUFACTURES here are only woollens. Carrick is one of the greatest manufacturing towns in Ireland. Principally for ratteens, but of late

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they have got into broadcloths, all for home consumption; the manufacture increases, and is very flourishing. There are between three and four hundred people employed by it, in Carrick and its neighbourhood.

LORD Tyrone is clear that if his estate in Londonderry was in Waterford, or that all the inhabitants of it were to emigrate from it, so as to leave him to new model it, he would be able to get full one-third more for it than he can do at present; rents in the north depending not on quality, but on price of linen.

THE rise in the prosperity of Ireland, about the year 1749, owing to the higher price of provisions, which raised rents and enforced industry. Butter now 9d. a lb. thirty years ago 2½d.

TYTHES are usually compounded for by the year through this county. Wheat pays 10s. Barley, 10s. Oats, 5s. Mowing ground, 4s. Sheep, 1d. each. Milk sells in summer for a halfpenny a quart; five quarts of buttermilk in summer for a halfpenny.

LORD Tyrone has improved 127 acres of hill, the soil reddish dry loam, on a flaty bottom, over-run with french and irish furze, and briars and bushes; he first grubbed them up at a guinea an acre: then he levelled an infinite number of old ditches and mounds, at 50l. expence, ploughed in winter, and second ploughed in may; and 200 barrels of roach lime per acre, spread, at 1s. a barrel. Upon this ploughed twice more; and sowed, part with wheat at michaelmas, and part with barley in spring. The crops exceedingly good; 8 barrels an acre of wheat, and 18 of barley. After the wheat, barley and grass seeds were sown; the barley as good as the other; and upon the barley, part oats were sown, the crop 15 barrels, and white clover and hay feeds. Before the improvement, it let at 10s. an acre; after the improvement, it would let readily at 25s. The grubbing the furze was not effectual, for 50l. has been since expended in grubbing up scattered ones. They are now completely destroyed, is a very beautiful well-laid lawn, and so good land, that the wool of the sheep alone that were kept there last year, without other food, and through the year paid 20s. an acre for the whole. It would now feed 600 sheep through the year. Over 90 acres limed, with 250 barrels-an acre, and fallowed, had 17 barrels an acre of wheat. Eight years ago, his Lordship stopped their burning land; but upon receiving many complaints at it, he sold them lime at 9d. a barrel, which cost him 1s. in order to make up the imaginary loss.

I had the pleasure of meeting, at Lord Tyrone's, William Shanly, Esq; of Willyfield, in Leitrun, who informed me that he had twelve hundred per acre from a bad red bog, stone of potatoes four feet deep, drained to the clay at bottom; lime-stone sand at 3l. labour, besides horses; dunged it a common covering, and immediately planted the potatoes, dug them, and sowed barley, 15 barrels an acre. Barley again 12 barrels;

barrels; barley again 8 barrels, grew too rank, laid with grafs seeds, could let at 40s. an acre: answers so well, that he would have done any quantity of it; did 20 acres. He planted with a plough 29½ stone of potatoes in rows, four feet asunder; the produce was 1,440 stone, the quantity of land about three rood. In the county Leitrim, four-fifths of mountain, at 2d. or not so much; the remaining fifth, 6s. the mountains in Leitrim all wet, a boggy surface.

CURRAGHMORE is one of the finest places in Ireland, or indeed that I have any where seen. The house, which is large, is situated upon a rising ground, in a vale surrounded by very bold hills, which rise in a variety of forms, and offer to the eye, in riding through the grounds, very noble and striking scenes. These hills are exceedingly varied, so that the detour of the place is very pleasing. In order to see it to advantage, I would advise a traveller to take the ride which Lord Tyrone carried me. - Passed through the deer park wood of old oaks, spread over the side of a bold hill, and of such an extent, that the scene is a truly forest one, without any other boundary in view than what the stems of trees offer from mere extent, retiring one behind another till they thicken so much to the eye, under the shade of their spreading tops, as to form a distant wall of wood. This is a sort of scene not common in Ireland, it is a great extent alone that will give it. From this hill enter an evergreen plantation, a scene which winds up the Deer-park hill, and opens on to the brow of it, which commands a most noble view indeed. The lawns around the house appear at one's feet, at the bottom of a great declivity of wood, almost every where surrounded by plantations. The hills on the opposite side of the vale against the house, consist of a large lawn in the center of the two woods, that to the right of an immense extent, which waves over a mountain side, in the finest manner imaginable, and lead the eye to the scenery on the left, which is a beautiful vale of rich inclosures, of several miles extent, with the Sure making one great reach through it, and a bold bend just before it enters a gap in the hills towards Waterford, and winds behind them; to the right you look over a large plain, backed by the great Cummeragh mountains. For a distinct extent of view, the parts of which are all of a commanding magnitude, and a variety equal to the number, very few prospects are finer than this.

FROM hence the boundary plantation extends some miles to the west and north-west of the domain, forming a margin to the whole of different growths, having been planted, by degrees, from three to sixteen years. It is in general well grown, and the trees thriven exceedingly, particularly the oak, beech, larch, and firs. It is very well sketched, with much variety given to it.

PASS by the garden across the river, which murmurs over a rocky bed, and follow the riding up a steep hill, covered with wood from some

breaks, in which the house appears perfectly buried in a deep wood, and come out, after a considerable extent of ride, into the higher lawn, which commands a view of the scenery about the house; and from the brow of the hill the water, which is made to imitate a river, has a good effect, and throws a great air of cheerfulness over the scene, for from hence the declivity below it is hid; but the view, which is the most pleasing from hence, the finest at Curraghmoor, and indeed one of the most striking that is any where to be seen, is that of the hanging wood to the right of the house, rising in so noble a sweep as perfectly to fill the eye, and leave the fancy scarce any thing to wish: at the bottom is a small semicircular lawn around, which flows the river, under the immediate shade of very noble oaks; the whole wood rises boldly from the bottom, tree above tree, to a vast height, of large oak, the masses of shade are but tints of one color, it is not chequered with a variety, there is a majestic simplicity, a unity in the whole, which is attended with an uncommon impression, and such as none but the most magnificent scenes can raise.

DESCENDING from hence through the roads, the riding crosses the river, passes through the meadow, which has such an effect in the preceding scene, from which also the view is very fine, and leads home through a continued and an extensive range of fine oak, partly on a declivity, at the bottom of which the river murmurs its broken course.

BESIDES this noble riding, there is a very agreeable walk runs immediately on the banks of the river, which is perfect in its stile; it is a sequestered line of wood, so high on the declivities in some places, and so thick to the very edge in others, overspreading the river, that the character of the scene is gloom and melancholly, heightened by the noise of the water falling from stone to stone; there is a considerable variety in the banks of it, and in the figures and growth of the wood, but none that hurts the impression, which is well preserved throughout.

OCTOBER, 17th, accompanied Lord Tyrone to Waterford; made some enquiries into the state of their trade, but found it difficult, from the method in which the Custom-house books are kept, to get the details I wished; but in the year following, having the pleasure of a long visit at Ballycanvan, the seat of Cornelius Bolton, Esq; his son, the member for the city, procured me every information I could wish, and that in so liberal and polite a manner, that it would not be easy to express the obligations I am under to both. In general I was informed that the trade of the place had increased considerably in ten years, both the exports and imports. The exports of the products of pasturage, full one-third in twelve years. That the staple trade of the place is the Newfoundland trade; this is very much increased, there is more of it here than any where. The number of people who go passengers in the Newfoundland ships is amazing; from sixty to eighty ships, and from three thousand to five thousand

thousand annually. They come from most parts of Ireland, from Corke, Kerry, &c. Experienced men will get 18 to 25*l.* for the season, from march to november; a man who never went will have five to seven pounds, and his passage, and others rise to 20*l.* the passage out they get, but pay home two pounds. An industrious man in a year will bring home twelve to sixteen pounds with him, and some more. A great point for them is to be able to carry out all their slops, for every thing there is exceedingly dear, one or two hundred per cent. dearer than they can get them at home. They are not allowed to take out any woollen goods but for their own use. The ships go loaded with pork, beef, butter, and some salt: and bring home passengers, or get freights where they can; sometimes rum. The Waterford pork comes principally from the barony of Iverk in Kilkenny, where they fatten great numbers of large hogs; for many weeks together they kill here three to four thousand a week, the price 50*s.* to 4*l.* each; goes chiefly to Newfoundland. One was killed in Mr. Penrose's cellar, that weighed five cwt. and a quarter, and measured from the nose to the end of the tail, nine feet four inches.

THERE is a foundery at Waterford for pots, kettles, weights, and all common utensils; and a manufactory by messieurs King and Tegent, of anvils to anchors, 20 cwt. &c, which employs 40 hands. Smiths earn from 6*s.* to 24*s.* a week. Nailors, from 10*s.* to 12*s.* And another less considerable. There are two sugar-houses, and many salt-houses. The salt is boiled over lime-kilns.

THERE is a fishery upon the coast of Waterford, for a great variety of fish, herrings particularly in the mouth of Waterford harbour, and two years ago in such quantities there, that the tides left the ditches full of them. There are some premium boats both here and at Dunganon, but the quantity of herrings barrelled is not considerable.

THE butter trade of Waterford has increased greatly for 7 years past; it comes from Waterford principally, but much from Carlow; for it comes from 20 miles beyond Carlow, for 6*d.* per cwt. From the 1st of January, 1774, to the first of January, 1775, there were exported 59,856 casks of butter each on an average, one hundred weight at the mean price of 50*s.* Revenue of Waterford, 1751, 17,000*l.*—1776, 52,000*l.* The slaughter trade has increased, but not so much as the butter. Price of butter now at Waterford, 58*s.* twenty years average, 42*s.* Beef now to 25*s.* average, twenty years, 10*s.* to 18*s.* Pork now 30*s.* average, twenty years, 16*s.* to 22*s.* Eighty sail of ships now belonging to the port, twenty years ago not 30. They pay to the captains of ships of 200 tons, 5*l.* a month; the mate 3*l.* 10*s.* Ten men, at 40*s.* five years ago only 27*s.* Building ships, 10*l.* a ton. Wear and tear of such a ship, 20*l.* a month. Ship provisions, 20*s.* a month.

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THE new church in this city is a very beautiful one; the body of it is in the same stile exactly as that of Belfast already described: the total length 170 feet, the breadth 58. The length of the body of the church 92, the height 40; breadth between the pillars 26. The isle (which I do not remember at Belfast) is 58 by 45. A room on one side the steeple space for the bishop's court, 24 by 18; on the other side, a room of the same size for the vestry; and 28 feet square left for a steeple when their funds will permit. The whole is light and beautiful: it was built by subscription, and there is a fine organ bespoke at London. But the finest object in this city is the quay, which is unrivaled by any I have seen; it is an english mile long; the buildings on it are only common houses, but the river is near a mile over, flows up to the town in one noble reach, and the opposite shore a bold hill, which rises immediately from the water to a height that renders the whole magnificent. This is scattered with some wood, and divided into pastures of a beautiful verdure, by hedges. I crossed the water, in order to walk up the rocks on the top of this hill; in one place, overgainst Bilberry quarry, you look immediately down on the river, which flows in noble reaches from Granny castle on the right past Cromwell's rock, the shores on both sides, quite steep, especially the rock of Bilberry. You look over the whole town, which here appears in a triangular form; besides the city, the Cumberagh mountains, Slein-a-man, &c. come in view. Kilmacow river falls into the Sure, after flowing through a large extent of well planted country; this is the finest view about the city.

FROM Waterford to Passage, and got my chaise and horses on board the Countess of Tyrone packet, in full expectation of sailing immediately, as the wind was fair, but I soon found the difference of these private vessels and the post-office packets at Holyhead and Dublin. When the wind was fair the tide was foul; and when the tide was with them, the wind would not do; in english there was not a complement of passengers, and so I had the agreeableness of waiting with my horses in the hold, by way of rest, after a journey of above 1500 miles.

OCTOBER 18th, after a beastly night passed on ship board, and finding no signs of departure, walked to Ballycanvan, the seat of Cornelius Bolton, Esq; rode with Mr. Bolton, jun. to Faithleghill, which commands one of the finest views I have seen in Ireland. There is a rock on the top of a hill, which has a very bold view on every side down on a great extent of country, much of which is grass inclosures of a good verdure. This hill is the center of a circle of about ten miles diameter, beyond which higher lands rise, which after spreading to a great extent, have on every side a back ground of mountain: in a northerly direction, mount Leinster, between Wexford and Wicklow, twenty-six miles off, rises in several heads, far above the clouds. A little to the right of this,
Sliakeiltha

Sliakeiltha (*i. e.* the woody mountain) at a less distance, is a fine object. To the left, Tory hill, only five miles, in a regular form varies the outline. To the east, there is the long mountain, eighteen miles distant, and several lesser Wexford hills. To the south-east, the Saltees. To the south, the ocean, and the colines about the bay of Tramore. To the west, Monavollagh rises 2160 feet above the level of the sea, eighteen miles off, being part of the great range of the Cummaragh mountains; and to the north-west Slinaman, at the distance of twenty-four miles; so that the outline is every where bold and distinct, though distant. These circumstances would alone form a great view, but the water part of it, which fills up the canvass, is in a much superior stile. The great river Sure takes a winding course from the city of Waterford, through a rich country, hanging on the sides of hills to its banks, and dividing into a double channel, forms the lesser island, both of which courses you command distinctly; united, it makes a bold reach under the hill on which you stand, and there receives the noble tribute of the united waters of the Barrow and the Nore, in two great channels, which form the larger island; enlarged by such an accession of water, it winds round the hill in a bending course, of the freest and most graceful outline, every where from one to three miles across, with bold shores, that give a sharp outline to its course to the ocean; twenty sail of ships at Passage, gave animation to the scene; upon the whole, the boldness of the mountain outline; the variety of the grounds; the vast extent of river, with the declivity to it from the point of view, altogether form so unrivalled a scenery—every object so commanding, that the general want of wood is almost forgotten.

Two years after this account was written I again visited this enchanting hill, and walked to it, day after day, from Ballycanvan, and with increasing pleasure. Mr. Bolton, jun. has since I was there before, inclosed forty acres on the top and steep slope to the water, and began to plant them. This will be a prodigious addition; for the slope forming the bold shore for a considerable space, and having projections from which the wood will all be seen in the gentle hollows of the hill, the effect will be amazingly fine. Walks and a riding are tracing out, which will command fresh beauties at every step; the spots from which a variety of beautiful views are seen are numerous. All the way from Ballycanvan to Faithleg, the whole to the amount of 1200 acres, is the property of Mr. Bolton.

FARMS about Ballycanvan, Waterford, &c. are generally small, from twenty and thirty to five hundred acres, generally about two hundred and fifty, all above two hundred acres are in general dairies; some of the dairy ones rise very high. The soil is a reddish stony, or slaty gravel, dry, except low lands, which are clay or turf. Rents vary much, about the town very high, from 5l. 5s. to 9l. but at the distance
of

of a few miles towards Passage, &c. they are from 20s. to 40s. and some higher, but the country in general does not rise so high, usually 10s. to 20s. for dairying land. The course of crops is,

1. Potatoes; the produce 40 to 80 barrels, 20 stones each. 2. Wheat; the crop 8 barrels, each 20 stones. 3. Oats; the produce from 10 to 14 barrels. 4. Barley; the crop 12 to 15 barrels, 16 stone each. 5. Lay it out; the better sort clover with the barley, and leave it for meadow.

1. Oats. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. One preparation is a slight burning of the furrows for wheat, after that wheat, they will sow barley, and then several crops of oats. Also,

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Wheat. 4. Barley. 5. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Barley. 6. Lay out. The second crop 10 barrels. Every house has a little patch of flax for making a little bundle cloth, but the quantity is not considerable.

THE principal manure is a sandy marle they raise in boats on the banks in the harbour at low water; it is of a blueish colour, very soapy, and ferments strongly with acids: a boat load is 18 tons, and costs 6s. to 8s. a load. Most of it has shells. They lay it on for barley particularly, and get great crops, can in all see to an inch where spread. Sometimes it is laid on grass, and the effect uncommonly great, bringing up a perfect carpeting of white clover wherever laid. They lay five or six loads an acre, and the land is forever the better. They repeat it on the same land, and with great effect. They make composts of it with lime, and also hedge earth with good success. Lime they use also; lay from 100 to 150 barrels roach to an acre, which has a very great effect. On the stiffer yellow clays it does better than sand, but laid on all sorts, and also on grass land with good effect. Sea sand they use for potatoes, but it does not last more than for that crop. Waterford Dung, and street fullage, 42s. the boat load of 18 tons. Clover has been introduced these 12 years; Mr. Bolton has sown it for many years with very good effect, so that he never lays down land without it.

THE dairies are generally set at 2l. 5s. The dairyman's privilege to 40 cows is a cow and horse, and 2 acres and a cabin, and he is allowed to rear one calf in ten; 100 acres to 40 cows; they do not keep any hogs on account of cows. Price of cows, average 4l. to 5l. They are engaged to give two pottles each on an average, putting all the milk together. Meadows let at 3l. to 4l. an acre for the hay.

THERE are few sheep kept, no great flocks. The poor people plough with four horses, sometimes six: gentlemen generally with spayed heifers or oxen. Land sells at 19 and 20 years purchase; it did sell at 23, and the fall has been owing to the failure of credit in 1771 and 1772.

TYTHES. Potatoes, Wheat, Barley, and Oats, 5s. to 6s. Cows, 2d. Sheep, 6d.

THE

THE poor people spin their own flax, but not more, and a few of them wool for themselves. Their food is potatoes and milk; but they have a considerable assistance from fish, particularly herrings; part of the year they have also barley, oats, and rye bread. They are incomparably better off in every respect than twenty years ago. Their increase about Ballycanvan is very great, and tillage all over this neighbourhood is increased. The rent of a cabin 10s. an acre with it, 20s. The grass of a cow a few years ago, 20s. now 25s. or 30s.

AN exceeding good practice here in making their fences is, they plant the quick on the side of the bank in the common manner, and then, instead of the dead hedge we use in England on the top of the bank, they plant a row of old thorns, two or three feet high, which readily grow, and form at once a most excellent fence. Their way also of taking in sand banks from the river deserves notice: they stake down a row of furzes at low water, laying stones on them to the height of one or two feet; these retain the mud, which every tide brings in, so as to fill up all within the furze as high as their tops. I remarked on the strand, that a few boat loads of stones laid carelessly, had had this effect, for within them I measured 12 inches deep of rich blue mud left behind them, the same as they use in manuring, full of shells and effervesced strongly with vinegar.

AMONG the poor people, the fishermen are in much the best circumstances; the fishery is considerable; Waterford and its harbour have 50 boats each, from 8 to 12 tons, six men on an average to each, but to one of six ton, five men go. A boat of eight tons costs 40l. one of twelve, 60l. To each boat there is a train of nets of six pair, which costs from 4l. 4s. to 6l. 6s. tan them with bark. Their only net fishery is that of herrings, which is commonly carried on by shares. The division of the fish is, first, one-fourth for the boat; and then the men and nets divide the rest, the latter reckoned as three men. They reckon 10 mase of herrings an indifferent night's work; when there is a good take 40 mase have been taken, 20 a good night; the price per mase, from 1s. to 7s. average 5s. Their take, in 1775, the greatest they have known, when they had more than they could dispose of, and the whole town and country stunk of them, they retailed them 32 for 1d. 1773 and 1774 good years. They barrelled many; but in general there is an import of Swedish. Besides the common articles I have registered, the following are, Pidgeons, 1s. a couple. A hare, 1s. Partridges, 9d. Turbets, fine ones, 4s. to 10s. Soals, a pair, large, 1s. 6d. to 1s. Lobsters, 3d. each. Oysters, 6s. per hundred. Rabbits, 1s. to 1s. 4d. a couple. Cod, 1s. each, large. Salmon, 1½d. to 2d.

A very extraordinary circumstance I was told, that within five or six years there has been much hay carried from Waterford to Norway, in the Norway ships that bring deals; as hay is dear here, it proves a most backward state of husbandry in that northerly region, since the neighbourhood of sea-ports

to which this hay can alone go, is generally the best improved in all countries.

MR. Bolton has improved a great deal of waste land, that was under furze, heath, and wood. He first grubbs it, which costs for the woody part, 3l. or 3l. 3s. and for the furze, 20s. Then levels all holes, &c. and clears it of rocks, at the expence of 20s. an acre. Upon this he dungs and plants potatoes in the trenching way upon a part, and upon the rest fallows and limes it, and sows wheat, 100 to 150 barrels an acre, produce seven to ten barrels an acre. Then sows it for oats or barley, 15 barrels of barley, and 12 of oats. In this way he has done 300 acres, which was not worth more than 5s. an acre: now lets at 30s. In making this very noble improvement, he divided the land into well proportioned fields, and surrounded them with very noble fences; double ditches, with a parapet bank between, planted on both sides with quick, and on the top with a double row of oak, elm, ash, or fir; many of these were planted 36 years ago; they are now in very great perfection, so thick and fully grown as to be impervious to the sight, and to take, when viewed at a distance, the appearance of spreading woods. Nothing could be done in a completer manner, and the quantity over more than 300 acres, uniting with many orchards planted at the same time, give his domain and its environs a richness of landscape not common in Ireland. I could not help much admiring it when on the water, from some parts of the river the effect is very beautiful.

MR. Bolton cannot be too much commended for the humane attention with which he encourages his poor cottar tenantry; he gives them all leases, whatever their religion, of 21 or 31 years, or lives: even the occupier of two acres has a lease. It is inconceivable what an effect this has had: this is the way to give the catholicks right ideas. I was for three weeks a witness of a most spirited industry among them; every scrap of rough rocky land, not before improved, they were at work upon, and overcoming such difficulties as are rarely to be found on common wastes: many spots, not worth 5s. an acre, they were reclaiming to be well worth 25s. and 30s. The improvement of this part of Mr. Bolton's estate may be guessed at when I mention, that on only 500 acres of it, there have been built, in six years, 40 new houses, many of them handsome ones of stone and slate. For cabbins, barns, &c. he gives timber for the roofs.

In 1751, Mr. Bolton being in England, where observing the cultivation of turnips for sheep, he introduced them on his estate on his return, and had hurdles made for penning sheep on them, and did it with much success; after the same journey also, he introduced horse-beans for feeding his horses, mixed with oats: he did it for twenty years together, and with the greatest success. Turnip cabbage he has tried also for sheep, and found them to do exceedingly well. One turnip cabbage sown the beginning of april, and not transplanted, weighed 13 lb. top and bottom. An experiment on carrots I viewed, of which Mr. Bolton, junior, has since favoured me with the following account.

“ WHEN

“WHEN you were here, I shewed you a few beds of carrots, which were pulled the beginning of this month; I measured the ground, and when the carrots were cleaned and topped, I saw them weighed. The ground measured fifteen perches, plantation measure, which produced 36 hundred and six stone of carrots, besides allowing 4 lb. to every hundred for dirt, though they were very clean and dry. The produce is 156 barrels, and 16 stones to an acre, (20 stones to the barrel) and beyond any thing I could have imagined; and I am certain, had the carrots been hoed and thinned as they ought, the product would have been much greater. The tops were given to pigs; they seemed to like them better than any thing else. These fifteen perches are part of a field, which, in 1774, had been highly manured with dung for potatoes. In 1775, the roots of the weeds (of which there were a great quantity, particularly couch grass and crow-foot) were burned, and the ashes and some blue sand spread, and it was sown with turnips. The latter end of march, these fifteen perches were dug, and about the 16th of april sown with a pound of carrot-seed; they were twice hoed, to destroy the weeds which came up very thick.”

In the winter of 1775, Mr. Bolton fed 10 working horses on bull potatoes, twice a day on oats, and once on potatoes; the potatoes given always at night; the quantity to each horse $1\frac{1}{2}$ peck of small ones; and at the other two feedings, half a peck each of oats. He found that they fattened the horses very much, and did exceedingly well on them. Value of the potatoes, 3s. a barrel. The culture of rape and turnips has been tried in this neighbourhood also by Mr. James Wyse, merchant, of Waterford.

In the beginning of June, 1774, Mr. Wyse ploughed lightly with a winged plough, and burned the surface of near four acres of land, which had not been tilled for many years. He spread the ashes, and manured the ground with 12 boat loads of the blue sand, which is taken from the banks of the river at low water, each boat load containing 20 tons. Then ploughed and harrowed it once; and such of the clods as were not thoroughly burned and pulverized after harrowing, he turned with the grassy side down to hinder their growing. About the middle of august he sowed with rape; a little more than half a bushel to an acre. It was cut the latter end of june, 1775, and produced 48 barrels, of sixteen stones to the barrel, which sold for 16s. per barrel, and the straw to a fallow-chandler to burn for ashes, for 48s. The straw, or haulm of rape, is sold for twelve-pence for each barrel of seed it produced. The beginning of July, 1775, Mr. Wyse ploughed and harrowed the ground; about the 20th of July sowed it with turnips, which on their coming up, were immediately destroyed by the fly. About the middle of august harrowed the ground, and sowed turnips again, which were also destroyed by the fly. Mr. Wyle imagines the great number of flies were occasioned by the oiliness and richness of the ground, (caused by the putrefaction of the leaves and blossoms of the rape) and the moisture and warmth of the weather. About the middle of oc-

tober, the grafs came up fo rich and luxuriant, (though not fown with grafs feed) that Mr. Wyfe would not fuffer it to be ploughed for tillage, as he had intended. The latter end of june, 1776, mowed it, and it produced three tons of hay per acre; fold for 34s. per ton. The fand and carriage of it coft about thirty fhillings per boat load; ploughing, burning, harrowing, fowing, cutting, &c. about four guineas per acre. Rent of the land thirty fhillings an acre. In 1775 Mr. Wyfe ploughed feven acres, which he prepared in the fame manner (except fanding) and fowed it with rape; it grew very well till the great froft and fnow fell, which was remarkably fevere, and which injured it very much, together with the moifture of the ground, occafioned by fprings in the land, and heavy rains, which fucceeded the froft and fnow; the produce per acre, about half the quantity of the former year; fold at the fame price. Mr. Wyfe recommends narrow ridges for low moift ground. He thinks a large quantity of afhes to be a chief means of enfuring a plentiful crop. The land does not require manure after rape for wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, &c. but will not anfwer for a fecond crop of rape.

MR. Bolton, junior, having mentioned a neighbour of his, who had drawn up a memoir upon making cyder, from confiderable experience, at my request wrote to him for a copy of it, which I have fince received, with his permiffion to infert it in this work.

The following is an abridgement of the account.

“LET apples of every fpecies hang till they are ripe, and begin to drop; let them be gathered perfectly dry, and if convenient in the heat of the day, when warmed in the fun; when gathered let them lie in heaps for one, two, three, or four weeks, according to their degrees of firmnefs, fo as to undergo a moderate fermentation; let the moifture be carefully wiped off, and each fpecies separated (if the quantity of fruit in your orchard be fufficient to admit it) and then ground in a mill, or pounded in troughs; but the firft the beft method, becaufe lefs of the pulp is broke, and the liquor will flow clearer from the bags; by preffing the fruit of each diftinct fpecies fo separated, the cyder will undergo one uniform fermentation.

WHEN the fruit are fufficiently broke for preffing, let them lie forty-eight hours before they be preffed; this will add to that deep richnefs of colour, which to the eye is pleafing in cyder; then let the fruit fo broke, having flood forty-eight hours, be preffed in hair cloth bags; as the juice is thus preffed out, let it be poured into large veffels, ufually called keeves, to undergo the fermentation; three of thefe veffels are neceffary in every orchard, one to contain the liquor in its ftate or courfe of fermentation, while a fecond is filling from the prefs, and the third to contain the pummage before it be preffed; three keeves, containing
five

five or six hogsheds each will serve for an orchard that yields sixty or seventy hogsheds of cyder. The expence of these vessels made of double boards, hooped with iron, or strong ash hoops, will not be very considerable; if the weather should prove cold, the fermenting keeves should be covered with bags, &c. in order to quicken the fermentation, which will be compleated in six or seven days if the weather be temperate, provided no new or unfermented cyder be put into the keeve, which above all things should be carefully avoided; when the fermentation is over, the liquor will be fine, and should then be racked off into very clean hogsheds, smoaked with brimstone matches; the hogsheds should not be bunged or stopt close till all symptoms of fermentation cease; and in three weeks or a month it should be a second time racked, still observing to smoak the hogsheds with brimstone, then the hogsheds should with the greatest care be very closely stopped; the keeves must be entirely emptied before the new pressed cyder is poured into them. The great secret in making good cyder, is to prevent or mitigate its fermentations, the first excepted; and nothing will so effectually do this, as repeated racking from the foul lee.

Do not press wildings 'till Candlemas, or until they begin to rot; and when the juice is pressed out, let it be boiled in a furnace for one hour, before it be suffered to work or ferment, and that will greatly soften the acrimony of its juice."

MR. William Atkinson, of Mount Wilkinfon, near Ballycanvan, seems to be very attentive to the orchard husbandry; from two acres he had twenty-one hogsheds of cyder, and the same year reaped twenty barrels of wheat under the trees, a produce little short of 50l. or 25l. an acre; three and an half barrels of his apples (each 6 bushels) made a hogshed of cyder. A common practice here in planting orchards, is to set cuttings, three or four feet long, half way in the ground, of the cackagee, jergonelle, or any set that grows rough and knotty in the wood; they call them *pitchers*, they rarely fail, and yield well and soon.

MR. Bolton carried me to the houses of some fishermen on the harbour, one of whom had planted around his cabbin for shelter, three years ago, some willow cuttings, the growth of which amazed me; I measured them 21 feet high, and not crooked or bending like common sorts, but strait as a fir. I took half a dozen cuttings with me to England, to compare it with the sorts common with us.

OCTOBER 19th, the wind being fair, took my leave of Mr. Bolton, and went back to the ship; met with a fresh scene of provoking delays, so that it was the next morning, october 20th, at eight o'clock, before

we

we failed, and then it was not wind, but a cargo of passengers that spread our sails. Twelve or fourteen hours are not an uncommon passage, but such was our luck, that after being in sight of the lights on the Smalls, we were by contrary winds blown opposite to Arklow sands; a violent gale arose which presently blew a storm, that lasted thirty-six hours, in which, under a reefed mainsail, the ship drifted up and down wearing, in order to keep clear of the coasts.

No wonder this appeared to me, a fresh-water sailor, as a storm, when the oldest men on board reckoned it a violent one; the wind blew in furious gusts; the waves ran very high; the cabin windows burst open, and the sea pouring in set every thing afloat, and among the rest a poor lady, who had spread her bed on the floor. We had however the satisfaction to find, by trying the pumps every watch, that the ship made little water. I had more time to attend these circumstances than the rest of the passengers, being the only one in seven who escaped without being sick. It pleased God to preserve us, but we did not cast anchor in Milford Haven, till Tuesday morning the 22d, at one o'clock.

It is much to be wished, that there were some means of being secure of packets sailing regularly, instead of waiting till there is such a number of passengers, as satisfies the owner, and captain; with the post-office packets there is this satisfaction, and a great one it is; the contrary conduct is so perfectly detestable, that I should suppose the scheme of Waterford ones can never succeed.

Two years after, having been assured this conveyance was put on a new footing, I ventured to try it again; but was mortified to find that the Tyrone, the only one that could take a chaise or horses, (the *countess* being laid up) was repairing, but would sail in five days; I waited, and received assurance after assurance that she would be ready on such a day, and then on another; in a word, I waited twenty-four days before I failed; moderately speaking, I could, by Dublin, have reached Turin or Milan as soon as I did Milford in this conveyance. All this time the papers had constant advertisements of the Tyrone sailing regularly, instead of letting the publick know that she was under a repair. Her owner seems to be a fair and worthy man, he will therefore probably give up the scheme entirely, unless assisted by the corporation, with at least four ships more, to sail regularly *with* or *without* passengers; at present it is a general disappointment; I was fortunate in Mr Bolton's acquaintance, passing my time very agreeably at his hospitable mansion; but those who, in such a case, should find a Waterford inn their resource, would curse the Tyrone, and set off for Dublin. The expences of this passage are higher than those from Dublin to Holyhead: I paid,

A four-

A four-wheel chaise	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	0
Three horfes	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	0
Self	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Two fervants	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0
Custom-house at Waterford, hay, oats, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	7
Ditto at Pembroke and Hubberfton	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Sailors, boats, and fundry fmall charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	15	5
							<hr/>		
							£.	15	5 0
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1777.

UPON a fecond journey to Ireland this year, I took the opportunity of going from Dublin to Mitcheltown, by a rout through the central part of the kingdom which I had not before fufficiently viewed.

LEFT Dublin the 24th of feptember, and taking the road to Naas, I was again ftruck with the great population of the country, the cabins being fo much poorer in the vicinity of the capital than in the more diftant parts of the kingdom. Mr. Nevill, at Furnefs, had, in a very obliging manner, given direftions for my being well informed of the ftate of that neighbourhood. He is a landlord remarkably attentive to the encouragement of his tenantry. He allows half the expence of building houfes on his eftate, which has raifed feven of ftone and flate, and nine good cabins, 35 by 16, at 27l. each. He gives annually three premiums of 7l. 5l. and 3l. for the greateft number of trees, planted in proportion to the number of their acres, and pays the hearth money of all who plant trees. He alfo allows his tenants 4os. an acre for all the parts of their farm that want gravelling, and does the boundary fence for them, but he is paid in his rent very well for this. The following particulars I owe to him.

THE foil in general, for fome miles every way, is a lime-ftone gravel, which does very well for wheat; lets at an average at 20s. that is, from 10s. to 40s. There are fome tracts of green ftone land, and a little clay. Rents rofe till 1772, but have fince rather fallen: the whole county through may be 14s. or 15s. If all now was to be let, it would be 20s.

FARMS rife from 15 acres to 500: a middling fize is 250. They are now fmaller than formerly, being divided as faft as leaves fall. There are houfes in general to all, the land lets the better for them, owing to its being a tillage country. Mr. Nevill encourages his tenantry to build, by being at half the expence. A common farmer requires one 50 feet long, 16 wide, two ftories high; a barn, 40 by 16; a ftale, 40 by 16; a cow-

a cow-house, 50 by 14; a pig-stye, hen-house, &c. all which would cost about 300l. of stone, the house slated, and would be sufficient for 250 acres of land. The courses of crops are;

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Wheat. 5. Clover. 6. Clover.
1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Fallow. 4. Wheat. 5. Clover. 6. Clover.

THEY sometimes sow wheat after potatoes; the crops are as great as after fallow; but the quality of the grain is not equal. Their fallow they plough first in winter; harrow in may, cross plough in ditto and in june; stretch it (that is, form the ridges) in august, making them of two bouts; harrow, and the seed furrow, in september; and reckon the best seed time the middle of that month. No dung in general used for it, but sometimes gravel. One barrel of seed to the acre; never weed the crop; the produce from five to twelve barrels, medium seven. Price of late years, 20s. a barrel. They thresh upon floors formed of lime, sand, and coal ashes, and are of opinion that they do not hurt the colour of the grain. At harvest they do not reap till it is quite ripe, bind directly, and form it into stacks in the field, which they leave out a fortnight. Plough the potatoe land once or twice for barley, sow a barrel an acre of 16 stone in april; medium price of late years from 7 to 12s. average 10s. Of clover they sow 21 lb. per acre, generally half clover and half trefoile; do not sow it till the barley is up, bush harrowing it; and on wheat *bull* harrow it, that is, with harrows without teeth. Never mow it. For oats they plough twice if able, sow two barrels per acre in march; the produce six to twelve barrels, and sometimes sixteen. Medium price for a few years past 6s. 6d. Upon some grounds that are light, are substituted pease instead of oats after wheat. Plough but once, sow 20 stone on an acre under furrow, never weed them; the produce six barrels per acre, and the price 10s. No flax sown.

POTATOES generally on a wheat stubble, always well dunged; the ridge seven feet, and the trench three feet wide, and to one perch in length of it, four loads of dung, Ten sacks, at twenty stone, plant an acre. March the best season; weed them, and get 100 sacks, at the medium price of 5s. the white english and apple sorts the best. It is common for the poor to hire grass land to plant them on, at 6l. to 6l. 6s. an acre, or for stubble land dunged.

Account of an acre.

Planting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
Seed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	0
Weeding	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Digging out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	0	0

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P R O D U C E.

One hundred sacks, at 5s.	-	-	-	-	-	25	0	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	14	0	0
						<hr/>		
Clear profit	-					£. 11	0	0
						<hr/>		

One hundred sacks costing 14l. gives the prime cost of 2s. 9d. a sack. They are often sold as they grow, for 16l. or 18l. an acre. No turnips.

LIME not generally used, Mr. Nevil has a kiln that draws 16 barrels a day. Burns with culm, at 2s. 8d. a barrel. Pays for quarrying, 2d. and burning, 1d. The lime costs him, at the kiln, 10d. a barrel. Lime-stone gravel more used, which lasts seven years, and on some soils longer: twelve loads on a square perch may be done for 3l. an acre. Tillage is done with both horses and oxen, and which is extraordinary, the latter are used by common farmers as well as gentlemen. Six oxen, or six horses in summer to a plough, or four in winter, do about half an acre a day. In the cross ploughing, which is the second, they go nine inches deep, at the other times shallower, price per acre, with a harrowing, 10s. 6d. They do not begin to mow their hay till july, get it into the large field cock in about a fortnight, which they leave out three or four weeks longer; a medium crop 12 loads an acre, at the average price of 5s. 6d.

IT is generally a corn country, yet are there some graziers that buy in bullocks, but more cows. Also some dairies that fatten veal for Dublin, by which they make 3l. or 4l. a cow; feeding them in winter when dry on straw, some on hay. They are let out to dairymen at 4l. a cow. The price of milch cows, in may, 5l. to 7l. One acre and half will summer feed one, and half an acre of hay for winter.

THE sheep kept are generally ewe flocks for fattening, for Dublin market. Buy in at Bullinasloe, at 10s. to 15s. Sell the lamb in june or july, at 8s. to 14s. and the ewe in november, at the same price they gave, keep them chiefly on clover. No folding. Medium price of wool, for 10 years past, 16s. clip three to a stone. They are not at all subject to the rot. A great many hogs bred; keep them for fattening on potatoes; some are finished with offal corn and pease; in summer they feed them on clover. Mark this! one would think from more than one circumstance, that a good farmer in England was speaking.

In hiring and stocking a farm of 200 acres, a man ought to employ 500l. but some of them will do it with 200l. Stock for 200 acres to have 100 acres corn, and fallow every year.

Twenty horses, at 6l. and ten bullocks, at 5l.	-	-	-	-	-	170	0	0
Six cows, at 5l.	-	-	-	-	-	30	0	0
Two sows	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	0
Six Ploughs, at 13s.	-	-	-	-	-	3	18	0
Three sets of geers	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
						<hr/>		
						£. 209	8	0
						<hr/>		

X x

Six

	Brought over	-	-	-	3	13	0
Eight load of straw, 5s.	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
Thatching	-	-	-	-	0	8	0
Two doors	-	-	-	-	0	8	0
					<hr/>		
					£.6	11	0
					<hr/>		

Mason's perch of a wall - - - - - 0 3 0

WOMEN are paid 5d. a day, earn by spinning, 3d. A farming-man, 5l. 10s. a year. A lad, 1l. 10s. A maid, 2l. to 2l. 10s. Reaping, 6s. 6d. Mowing grafs, 2s. 6d. to 3s. Pidgeons, 3d. each. Rabbits, 8d. a couple.

To Kildare, crossing the Curragh, so famous for its turf. It is a sheep walk of above 4000 english acres, forming a more beautiful lawn than the hand of art ever made. Nothing can exceed the extreme softness of the turf, which is of a verdure that charms the eye, and highly set off by the gentle inequality of surface. The soil is a fine dry loam on a stoney bottom; it is fed by many large flocks, turned on it by the occupiers of the adjacent farms, who alone have the right, and pay very great rents on that account. It is the only considerable common in the kingdom. The sheep yield very little wool, not more than 3 lb. per fleece, but of a very fine quality.

FROM Furness to Shaen Castle, in the Queen's County, Dean Coote's; but as the husbandry, &c. of this neighbourhood is already registered, I have only to observe, that Mr. Coote was so kind as to shew me the improved grounds of Dawson's Court, the seat of Lord Carlow, which I had not seen before. The principal beauties of the place are the well grown and extensive plantations, which form a shade not often met with in Ireland. There is in the back grounds a lake well accompanied with wood, broken by several islands that are covered with underwood, and an ornamented walk passing on the banks, which leads from the house. This lake is in the season perfectly alive with wild fowl; near it is a very beautiful spot, which commands a view of both woods and water, a situation either for a house or a temple. Mr. Dawson is adding to the plantations, an employment of all others the most meritorious in Ireland. Another work scarcely less so, was the erecting a large handsome inn, wherein the same gentleman intends establishing a person who shall be able to supply travellers, post, with either chaises or horses.

FROM Shaen Castle to Gloster, in the King's County, the seat of John Lloyd, Esq; member for that county, to whose attention I owe the following particulars, in which he took every means to have me well and accurately informed. But first let me observe, that I was much pleased to remark, all the way from Naas quite to Rosserea, that the country was amongst the finest I had seen in Ireland, and consequently that I

was fortunate in having an opportunity of seeing it after the involuntary omission of last year. The cabbins, though many of them, are very bad, yet are better than in some other counties, and chimnies generally a part of them. The people too have no very miserable appearance; the breed of cattle and sheep good, and the hogs much the best I have any where seen in Ireland. Turf is every where at hand, and in plenty; yet are the bogs not so general as to affect the beauty of the country, which is very great in many tracts, with a scattering of wood, which makes it pleasing. Shaen Castle stands in the midst of a very fine tract. From Mountrath to Gloster, Mr. Lloyd's, I could have imagined myself in a very pleasing part of England; the country breaks into a variety of inequalities of hill and dale; it is all well inclosed, with fine hedges; there is a plenty of wood, not so monopolized as in many parts of the kingdom by here and there a solitary seat, but spread over the whole face of the prospect: look which way you will, it is cultivated and chearful.

THE King's county contains the following baronies, and annexed to their names is the value per acre of each:

Clonlisk	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Ballibrit	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Eglisk	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	0
Balliboy	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Garrycastle	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	13	0
Gashill	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	12	0
Coolestown	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Warrenstown	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	0
Ballicowen	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0
Kilcourfy	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
Upper and Lower Philip's town	-	-	-	-	-	-	£.0	15	0

In Gashill are 13000 acres belonging to Lord Digby; and in Warrenstown is Croghen hill, famous for the great fleeces the sheep yield that are fed on it. A curragh sheep, from giving 3 lb. carried there, will yield 12 lb. but the quality is coarse.

THERE are great tracts of bog in the county; and 153,000 acres that pay county charges; 170,000 acres at 15 s. and 30,000 of bog. The rise of rents since 1750, more than two-thirds, but are much fallen since 1772, in many farms 4 s. in the pound.

ESTATES through the county are remarkably divided; and are in general small. The size of farms varies much, 600 acres are a very large one; usually not less than 100; very few in partnership. There are many farms without buildings, which if divided and built, would let much better. The arable system, when burning is permitted, is to plough in the spring, very thin, then cross cut it and burn the sod as soon as the season serves, which will be some time in June; plough in the ashes very lightly, and sow turnips; these they never hoe, which is said to be difficult, on account of the number of stones; they feed the
crop,

crop on the land with three-year old wethers or lambs. After this, plough it up and fallow for a second crop of turnips, which they manage as the first, but feed them earlier; then plough once, and set it to the poor for potatoes, at 6l. 6s. to 6l. 10s. an acre, after which they sow bere upon one ploughing; this they succeed with wheat also on one ploughing; and after the wheat, oats. Then they summer and winter fallow, which is followed by wheat and oats as before; but by this time the land is quite exhausted. A partial burning is sometimes used, which is to break up in november, and plough twice or thrice by may, and then to burn what the harrow does not reduce. For wheat they plough once, as before-mentioned in the burning course; and four times on a fallow. Sow 20 stone to an acre; the crop five to six and a half barrels; the medium price of late 1l. 1s. a barrel. They sow a barrel of bere; of sixteen stone, the crop 14 to 23 barrels, which great produce is from the rich preparation. Of oats two barrels, or 24 stone, the crop 10 to 16; of barley they sow 16 stone, the crop 10 to 16. The price of bere and barley 9s. 6d. No clover at all sown, nor any grass seeds, and very few pease or beans, as they never feed their pigs or horses with either. Very little flax. There are a few bleach yards about Clara, &c. but the business is not much upon the increase. Potatoes they plant in the common trenching way; the season from the middle of april to the middle of may; more after the first of may than before it; eight barrels plant an acre; they always weed them. The apple sort is preferred from lasting longest; the medium price 2d. a stone; twenty stone the barrel.

Account of an acre.

Planting, 48 men, the first and second trenching at 8d.	1	12	0
Seed, at 3 s. 4 d.	1	6	6
Taking up, 48 men	1	12	0
Picking up, carrying home and sorting; horse-hire only, as the family does the rest	0	8	8
Rent	6	6	0

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P R O D U C E.

100 barrels, at 3s. 4d.	16	13	4
Expences	11	5	2
Profit	£. 5	8	2

Prime cost, 2s. 3d. a barrel. A barrel will last a family of five persons a week.

THE turnips on the burnt land they sow from the 20th of july to the fourth of august, but a fortnight or three weeks earlier upon a fallow, the

the quantity of seed $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. they never hoe; the price upon an average 3l. an acre, either to take away or feed on the land, but the former rarely done; they feed them off with fat sheep or lambs, very rarely with black cattle.

No lime burnt for manure, nor any lime-stone gravel used, though plenty of it found all the country through. One farmer made an experiment of them both for corn, but neither answered; the general opinion is, its being bad for the grass afterwards; there is not any marle known; the farm-yard system incomplete, as every where else, foddering in the fields; but cows are kept in the house at night, and fed with hay for about five months in the winter. Their hay grounds they wish to shut up about the 25th of march, but if their hay is finished, they are obliged to be later; mow from the 15th of july to the 15th of september, which lateness is owing to their feeding so late in the spring. They usually upon the average of weather, and management, get it into the large cock in about ten days, and leave it in that from one to two months; the medium produce per acre, two tons and a quarter, and the price 30s. a ton; the women here never make it.

TILLAGE is performed more with horses than with horned cattle; the latter only by considerable graziers, and they are usually spayed heifers, Four horses, or four heifers to a plough, which do half an acre a day; the depth, from the shallowness of the soil, not more than six or seven inches; the price 7s. 6d. an acre. Very few hogs kept, not more than for mere convenience.

To hire and stock a farm will, on an average, take 40s. an acre, if a grazing one, but less in proportion to the tillage; but there are men who will hire on little or no capital, this however is much less than formerly, from several landlords having suffered severely from it. The tillage of the whole country is very inconsiderable; it is chiefly pasturage, not one acre in fifteen is tilled; the barony of Garrey castle has much more; one reason of there not being more, is the number of farms, from 150 to 400 acres, under leases for ever, which are so highly improved by the tenants, that they abstain from tillage, under the idea of its being prejudicial. Respecting the labour of a farm, the standing business is done by cottars; a cottar is one who has a cabin, and an acre and a half of garden, charged at 30s, and the grass of one or two cows, at 25s. each, and the daily pay 6d. the year through, the account being kept by tallies, and those charges deducted; the year's labour amounts to about 6l. after the cottar's time for his potatoes and turf is deducted; the remaining 40s. is paid in money, hay, or any thing else the man wants. The cows are fed by a field being assigned for all the cottars of the farm. No instance of a cottar without a cow. The calves they rear till half a year old, and then sell them at 12s. to 20s which will pay for the cow's hay. They keep no sheep, but every cabin has a pig,
a dog,

a dog, and some poultry. No difference in their circumstances for the last fifteen years. It is here thought that it would be very difficult to nurse up a race of little farmers from the cottars, by adding land gradually to them at a fair rent; it would be also very difficult, if not impossible, to cut off the cottars from a farm; nobody would be troubled with such tenants, and no farmer would hire a farm with the poor on it independant of him, their cattle and all their property would be in constant danger; as the kingdom increafes in prosperity, such ideas it is to be hoped will vanifh. Their food is potatoes and milk for ten months, and potatoes and falt the remaining two; they have however a little butter. They fell their pig, their calf, and their poultry, nor do they buy meat for more than ten fundays in a year. Their fuel costs them about 14s. a year, or eighty kish turf, an ample allowance. There is in every cabbin, a spinning-wheel, which is used by the women at leifure hours, or by a grown girl, but for twelve years 19 in 20 of them breed every fecond year. Vive le pomme de Tere!

Expençe of a poor family.

Cabbin and garden	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Labour in the garden	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Two cows	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	0
Hay for ditto	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Turf	-	-	-	-	-	0	14	0
Cloathing, 15s. a head	-	-	-	-	-	3	15	0
Tools	-	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Hearth tax	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
						<hr/>		
						11	16	0

The Receipt.

The year	-	-	-	-	365 days			
Deduct fundays	-	-	-	52				
Bad weather	-	-	-	30				
Holydays	-	-	-	10				
					<hr/>	92		
					273 at 6d	6	16	6
Two calves	-	-	-	-	1	10	0	
Pig	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	
Poultry	-	-	-	-	0	5	0	
						<hr/>		
						2	5	0
						<hr/>		
						9	1	6
						3	15	3
						<hr/>		
						12	16	9
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	11	16	0
						<hr/>		
Remains for whisky, &c. &c.	-	-	-	-	-	£	1	0 9

Potatoes are much more the food than formerly; there are full twice as many planted. The cottars in their gardens follow the course of crops first mentioned. They are all very much addicted to pilfering: their general character idleness and dirtiness, and want of attention. They are remarkable for a most inviolable honour in never betraying each other, or even any body else, which results from a general contempt of order and law, and a want of fear of every thing but a cudgel, the reader will remember that maiming cattle, pulling down, and scattering stacks, and burning the houses of those who take lands over their heads, are very well known. I am registering information, and that not from one or two persons, but several.

THE pasturage system is to buy in yearling calves, called *bull chins*, at from 35s. to 55s. (but twenty years ago, 22s. 9d. each), which they generally sell at Bannagher fair, when three years and an half, at 5l. 10s. to 6l. buying and selling regularly every year. They also buy cows in may, and sell them fat in autumn, with 40s. profit. Sheep they either breed, or buy *hoggits* in may, at 12s. to 15s. each in the fleece, and sell them fat, at three years and an half old, from 1l. 1s. to 1l. 4s. each; they get three fleeces, worth 18s. the profit 10s. a head, keeping them three summers and two winters. No folding. Flocks rise from 100 to 2000, they calculate to keep a sheep to every acre of their farms. The fleeces, on an average of a running stock, are three to a stone of 16 lb. The price, this year, 17s. 6d. twenty years ago only 9s. or 10s. Not much alteration in the number of sheep through the country; all fat ones, are in winter fed with turnips and a little hay. Their low lands rot; but being more careful than formerly, it is not so common as it was; that, with the *gid*, (a sudden giddiness) and the red water, are the chief distempers they are troubled with.

MILCH cows are kept only for convenience, a few to every farm. An acre and half necessary to keep one the year through, but must have 1½ ton of hay besides. One four or five years old ready for milk in the spring, sells for five or six guineas. A three years old heifer ready to calve, four or five guineas.

THE bounty on the inland carriage of flour to Dublin has occasioned the building several mills, five considerable ones, four were immediately built in consequence. The quantity of tillage has increased double in 20 years; probably from this cause, among others, has arisen the increase of whisky, the quantity of which is three times greater than fifteen years ago. Not less than 30,000 barrels of barley and bere are distilled yearly within 8 miles of Gloster.

LAND sells at 25 years purchase. Suppose six farms, one let for ever, at 20 years purchase, one for three lives, let 20 years ago, 25—one for two lives, ditto 28—one for one life, ditto 30—one for 31 years, 30—one

one to let now, 20. Average of all, 25 years. Ten years ago it would have been twenty-six and a half; twenty years ago, twenty-three and a half. Leafes are generally for three lives, or thirty-one years.

THE country in general is much improved in most national circumstances; buildings are much increased, on a larger scale, and of a far better sort than twenty years ago; there is also a rise in the price of almost all commodities.

Prices not minuted in the table.

RABBITS, 8d. a couple. Roasting pigs, 2s. 6d. much beyond the proportion of other things. Rise in the price of meat, 1d. a lb. in twenty years, since which bere has also advanced, from 6s. to 1s. 6d. the barrel of 16 stone. Womens labour, 4d. Wages of a farming man, 4l. ditto a boy, 1l. ditto a maid, 2l. From 10 to 14 men reap an acre of corn in a day. Mowing grafs, by the acre, 2s. 8½d. two men do it in a day. Threshing wheat, 6d. a barrel. Bere, 4d. Oats, 3d. Cutting turf, footing, &c. 12s. the 120 kish.

BUILDING.

A common cabbin, 5l. Ditto of stone, 10l. to 15l.									
Walling, mason's perch work	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	7
One barrel lime	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	6
Seven load stone	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	1
Attendance	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	2
Sand and carriage	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	0
							0	3	4
Feet high	-	-	-	-	-	-			5
							£. 0	16	8

A guinea a perch, 7 feet; 6 inches high. Slates, 9s. 6d. a thousand. Slating, 1l. 2s. 9d. a square, every thing included. Oak, 1s. 3d. a foot. Ash and home fir, 1s. Lime, five-pence halfpenny a barrel, burnt, with turf in kilns on arches; two arches burn 400 barrels, the stone large. 400 kish of turf will burn 400 barrels; price of burning and filling from 2l. 5s. 6d. to a guinea and half.

SEPTEMBER 30th, took my leave of Mr. Lloyd, a gentleman from whose conversation I reaped equal instruction and amusement. Passed by Shinroan, Murderinny, and Graig, to Johnstown, the seat of Peter Holmes, Esq; Much of this line a very beautiful country; near Johnstown nothing can be more picturesque, the whole well planted with hedges and little woods, and consisting of the most fanciful variety of
Y y hill,

hill, dale, and swelling declivities, upon which every bush and tree is seen to advantage.

FOR the following particulars I am indebted to Mr. Holmes, who, notwithstanding his own ability to answer every question, trusted not to it, but called in the best assistance the neighbourhood could give.

Baronies in the county of Tipperary.

LOWER Ormond, 20 s. an acre.—Upper Ormond, 20 s.—Skevin, 18 s. Eliogurty, 20 s.—Owen and Aira, 12 s.—Clanwilliam, 11. 2s. 9d.—Middle third, 25 s. Besides Iffa, Offa, and Kilnemanna. The whole county on an average would now let for 20 s. an acre. Rents have doubled in twenty years.

THROUGH the whole barony of Lower Ormond, the soil is in general a dry lime-stone land. Farms are large, some very large, few less than 5 or 600 acres: the size is rather increased. There are many without any buildings, and it is only from particular circumstances that they let the better for them. The small farms are taken much in partnership; a parcel of labourers will take 1 or 200 acres. The common course of tillage is,

1. Pare, and burn for turnips. 2. Turnips. 3. Potatoes. 4. Bere.
5. Wheat. 6. Oats. 7. Grey pease. 8. Fallow. 9. Wheat. 10. Oats.
11. Lay out for grafs quite exhausted. Also,

1. Fallow turnips from the turf. 2. Turnips, and then as before.

THE management is to plough the sod at christmas; in april or may cross plough it, and let it dry, burn as soon as dry, which will be sometimes in may; spread the ashes, plough once, and harrow in a pound and a half or two pounds of seed to the acre, from the 20th of june to the 4th of august. They never either hoe or weed. Begin to feed them upon the land in december with fat sheep, giving three or four acres at a time to 2 or 300 sheep; and one acre to 100 sheep, giving them at the same time hay in sheep racks: a middling acre will keep 13 from christmas to the first of april, being worth from two guineas to 3l. They are also commonly used for sheep and lambs in march and april. The profit upon fat sheep, from turnips only, will amount to from 7s. to 10s. a head. The land is ploughed three times for the second crop; but the turnips are not so sweet for sheep as the first, yet they sell as well: they must be eaten off first, as they will not stand so long as the others.

THE poor people hire this turnip land at six guineas to 7l. 10s. for planting potatoes. About ten years ago the price was four guineas to 5l. but the restrictions on paring and burning have lessened the quantity of it. For this potatoe crop one ploughing is given in march or april, six to eight barrels of seed planted; the favourite sorts are the apple potatoe for late, and the early wise for early use. They hand weed them

them carefully, and take them up the middle of november or beginning of december, the average crop 90 barrels.

Expences on an acre.

Rent	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	16	6
Seven barrels of feed, at 4s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	0
Planting, thirty men a day	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
Taking up, eighty men a day	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
							<hr/>		
							11	0	6
							<hr/>		

P R O D U C E.

Ninety barrels, at 4s.	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	0	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	0	6
							<hr/>		
			Profit	-	-	-	£.	6	19 6
							<hr/>		

Prime cost, 2s. 5d. a barrel.

THE culture has increased very much, and been the means of reclaiming great tracts of land, which otherwise would never have been touched. The potatoe land they plough immediately for bere, and, if weather dry enough, sow 14 stone per acre, and get 16 barrels. For the wheat they plough thrice; sow in november 14 stone, and get 7 barrels.

IT was in this neighbourhood Mr. Yelverton had his famous crop, which has been written so often in all the books of husbandry in Europe, but nobody here believed it. The account I had was this: that he selected the best acre in a field of 30, which he marked out; but his labourers knowing his intention, put many stocks from the adjacent parts of the field into that acre. Thus without any intentional deceit in the gentleman himself was the public completely deceived. From hence it appears, there was some reason in my proposing to the London society, to annex to their premiums for the greatest crops, the condition of reaping, threshing, and measuring all in one day, and in the presence of witnesses which they adopted much against the opinion of several gentlemen who did not approve it.

FOR the oats they plough once, sow two barrels in march, and get on an average from 10 to 14. For the pease, they plough once, sow twenty stone broad cast, are so far from hoeing or weeding, that *they like to have weeds among them, by way of sticks!* get six or seven barrels an acre. The succeeding fallow is ploughed four times, the crop of wheat as good as after bere, but the following oats will not yield above eight or nine barrels.

THE medium prices of the preceding products have of late years been, Wheat, 20s. Bere, 10s. Oats, 5. Pease, 6s. There are very few threshing floors of wood: but they make the clay ones so hard, that they think them as good. Flax is sown only by the cottars in their gardens; very few that do not sow some. Six pottles of seed on about four perch of land. They proportion it very exactly to their own consumption; it is wove by weavers, who make it their business to weave for others; and there are very few gentlemen that do not do the same for the coarse linen of their families.

MARLE and lime-stone sand are the manures used here. They have two ways of improving waste land with marle: they plough and sow oats, and marle the stubble: or else they marle at first upon the lay: this is mostly practised in the Duharrow mountains, where it has worked very great improvements. It is a grey soapy marle, full of shells, dredged from the bottom of the Shannon. The expence of getting it, with boats and carriage into the land, is 40s. an acre. Lime-stone sand is laid on at the end of an exhausting course, on the oat stubble: it costs about 50s. an acre. Very little lime used. No farm-yards; the hay is stacked in the fields where it is designed to be fed, and scattered about; and shame on them, they do the same with their straw; but no wonder the farm-yard system is unknown, for they sell much of their corn in the stack in the field, which gentlemen buy for straw. Great improvements have been made in the Duharrow mountains, insomuch that the tythes of one parish have risen from 70l. a year to 400l.

THE sheep in the Ormond baronies are kept chiefly for breeding; they do not sell the lambs till they become three years old wethers; give the ewes the ram at two years old, which supply the place of the old ewes, culled out and fattened at four years old, going five. In 170 there are 50 ewes, 40 lambs. 40 two-year olds, 20 three year old wethers sold, 20 ewes kept, and 20 old ones sold. Ten are kept for accidents. The fat wethers sell at 20s. from grafs, and 30s. from turnips; and the 20 culled ewes will sell at 20s. each; the wool of the whole, three fleeces to a stone. Mr. Robert Gowen has sold a score of four-year old wethers at Dublin, for 59l. Their black cattle are in the succession way. To 1000 acres, besides 1500 sheep, they will buy in 180 year-old calves every year, at 45s. bought in from may to september, the right time may and june; they keep them two years and an half, selling them in november, at 6l. to 8l. allowing three for losses, there would be

177 calves, 177 two-year olds, 177 three-year olds—531.

Also upon 1000 acres there would be two breeding mares, and six colts, ten working heifers, 4 car horses, and ten milch cows; there would also be 100 acres of 1000, in tillage, ten of which under turnips every year, and fifty acres of hay mown; an instance out of thousands how little attention in Ireland is paid to providing a due quantity of winter food.

MR.

MR. William Harden, thirty-two years ago, fold wool at 6s. 6d. a stone; it rose gradually for ten years to 10s. 6d. and did not get up to 15s. till about four years ago; but the price was very fluctuating, rising and falling suddenly without any evident reason; the weight of the fleeces have not increased in thirty years, but the number of sheep is greater; turnips were commonly sown at that time. In black cattle however, there has been a great improvement, being much larger than formerly. Calves have risen in price as much as wool, such as now cost 45s. might, thirty years ago, have been had at 20s. Mr. Harden's father bought a two-year old bullock for 5s. of a man now alive.

IN tillage, bullocks and heifers are generally used, four in a plough, and they do not quite half an acre a day. Three ploughs will do an acre; they stir five inches deep. The price 6s. Paring and burning take from twelve to forty men per acre, according to the dryness of the season.

LABOUR is done by cottars, who have a cabin and a garden of one acre, if only one man in family, but if the son is grown, two acres. The cabin and one acre is reckoned at 20s. also two collops, at 20s. each, which are generally cows. All this he works out at five pence a day, all extra labour six pence halfpenny a day, and eight pence in harvest. They all have from one to three pigs, and much poultry. Their food is potatoes for at least eleven months of the year, and one month of oat barley or bere bread.

Expences and receipt of a cottar family.

Cabbin, and one acre rent	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Two cows	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
One stone of broken wool	-	-	-	-	0	14	0
Weaving it	-	-	-	-	0	3	0
Weaving their linen	-	-	-	-	0	3	0
Hearth money	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
Tools	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Tythe of one acre	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Hire of half an acre potatoes	-	-	-	-	3	8	0
					<hr/>		
					£. 8	0	0
					<hr/>		

Receipt.

Two pigs	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
On an average of years the two cows will yield three calves in two years	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
					Poultry		

	Brought over	-	-	£. 4 0 0
Poultry	-	-	-	0 15 0
Hire	365 days			
	52 fundays			
	15 holydays			
	20 bad weather			
	48 sickness and their own work			
	135			
	230 at 5d.	-	-	4 16 0
Expences	-	-	-	9 11 0
				8 0 0
Remains for unspecified articles	-	-		£. 1 11 0

IT is a general remark, that industrious and attentive men will earn 5l. in the year. The circumstances of the poor are much better than they were twenty years ago, for their land and cabbins are not charged to them *by gentlemen* higher than they were 30 years ago, while all they sell bears double the price.

POTATOES are rather more cultivated and eaten than twenty years ago, and are managed better. The poor in this neighbourhood are by no means to be accused of a general spirit of thieving. It arises from holding them in too much contempt, or from the improper treatment of their superiors. No white boys have ever arisen in these baronies, nor any riots that last longer than a drunken bout at a fair: nothing that has obstructed the execution of justice.

THERE is no objection to cutting off the cottars from a farm, and making them tenants to the landlord, upon the score of difficulty in letting a farm without cottars upon it, provided they were kept perfectly distinct by a good fence. Nor is there any doubt but out of them a race of little farmers might be gradually formed.

LAND at improved rents sells at 20 years purchase. Rents are doubled in 20 years; they are not fallen since 1772. Leases are usually for three lives, or thirty-one years.

THE interest of money has certainly risen, and the year's purchase of land fallen in twenty years; yet in the same period it is undoubted that the kingdom has improved greatly, which has the appearance of a contradiction. Buildings have very much increased in all the towns, and in a stile far superior to former periods.

TYTHES are very rarely taken in kind. Bere and wheat pay 6s. an acre. Barley and oats, 3s. Potatoes, 6s. They are generally let to proctors, who are severe to the poor, and very indulgent to gentlemen. The rigor, however, does not extend beyond those prices.

THE

THE bounty on the inland carriage of corn has occasioned the building some mills, which united with the turnip husbandry, and the vast increase of whisky have altogether much increased tillage.

Prices not in the tables.

LABOUR of a woman or boy in harvest, 4d. Mowing grass, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. Hire of a car, a day, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. Building a cabbin of stone and slate, 25l. Walling the mason's perch, 4s. Lime, per barrel, seven-pence halfpenny; at Nenagh, 1s. Culm, per barrel, 3s. one burns nine of lime, in some places only six.

Quarrying the stones	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Breaking and burning	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	3
Culm	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	4
						<hr/>		
						£.	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
						<hr/>		

Oak timber, 50s. to 3l. a ton. Fir, 40s.

WILD fowl.—Wild ducks, 1s. 6d. a couple. Teal, 9d. ditto. Widgeon, 6d. ditto. Rabbits, 8d. ditto. Trout 5 lb. for 1s. Salmon, 2d. per lb. Fresh water fish in general, 2d $\frac{1}{2}$. a lb. Oysters, 2s. per 120.

THE Shannon adds not a little to the convenience and agreeableness of a residence so near it. Besides affording these sorts of wild fowl, the quantity and size of its fish are amazing. Pikes swarm in it, and rise in weight to 50 lb.. In the little flat spaces on its banks are small but deep lochs, which are covered in winter and in floods; when the river withdraws, it leaves plenty of fish in them, which are caught to put into stews. Mr. Holmes has a small one before his door at Johnstown, with a little stream which feeds it; a trowling rod here gets you a bite in a moment, of a pike from 20 to 40 lb. I eat of one of 27 lb. so taken; I had also the pleasure of seeing a fisherman bring three trouts, weighing 14 lb. and sell them for six-pence halfpenny a piece. A couple of boats lying at anchor, with lines extended from one to the other, and hooks in plenty from them, have been known to catch an incredible quantity of trout. Colonel Prittie, in one morning, caught four stone, odd pounds, thirty-two trouts: in general they rise from 3 to 9 lb. Perch swarm; they appeared in the Shannon for the first time about ten years ago, in such plenty that the poor lived on them. Bream of 6 lb. Eels very plentiful. There are many gillaroos in the river, one of 12 lb. weight was sent to Mr. Jenkinson. Upon the whole, these circumstances, with the pleasure of shooting and boating on the river, added to the glorious view it yields, and which is enough at any time to cheer the mind, render this neighbourhood one of the most enviable situations to live in that I have seen in Ireland. The face of the country gives every circum-

circumstance of beauty. From Killodeernan-hill, behind the new house building by Mr. Holmes, the whole is seen to great advantage. The spreading part of the Shannon, called Loch Derg, is commanded distinctly for many miles; it is in two grand divisions of great variety. That to the north is a reach of five miles leading to Portumna. The whole hither shore a scenery of hills, checkered by inclosures and little woods, and retiring from the eye into a rich distant prospect. The woods of Doras, belonging to Lord Clanrickard, form a part of the opposite shore, and the river itself presents an island of 120 acres. Inclining to the left, a vale of rough ground, with an old castle in it, is backed by a bold hill, which intercepts the river there, and then the great reach of 15 miles, the bay of Sheriff, spreads to the eye, with a magnificence not a little added to by the boundary, a sharp outline of the *county of Clare mountains*, between which and the *Dubarrow hills*, the Shannon finds its way. These hills lead the eye still more to the left, till *the Keeper* meets it, presenting a very beautiful outline that sinks into other ranges of hill, uniting with *the Devil's Bit*. The home scenery of the grounds, woods, hills, and lake of Johnstown, is beautiful.

MR. Holmes has practiced agriculture upon an extensive scale, and not without making some remarks, which must be of use to others.

HE has not for five or six years past been without a small field of scotch cabbages. The seed he sows both in march and autumn for use at different seasons; the rows he plants three feet asunder, and two feet from cabbage to cabbage. He has used them for fat sheep and fat cattle, but principally for weaned calves: they have answered perfectly well in all, but remarkably so with the calves, of which Mr. Holmes has had the best in the country, and singly from being thus fed. His people were all of opinion, that a good acre of cabbages will go as far as two acres of turnips, worth each 3l. Two years ago a violent frost stopped the use of turnips, and he then found the benefit of them prodigiously great. He has always manured for them with dung or marle, the former best.

R A P E C A K E,

MR. Holmes has used as a manure, with great success: in 1775, he dressed two acres of worn out meadow, with a ton and a half an acre, at 2l. 2s. per ton; and in 1776, he laid on seven tons, at 1¼ per acre; the first trial was made too late, and a dry season coming, the effect was not great. The last year it was laid on the fifth of april, when the effect was remarkably great: it threw up a most luxuriant crop of the finest herbage, in so much that he is convinced nothing can answer better, and is determined to extend the practice considerably. He has tried it on low, wet, and on upland, and the effect infinitely greater on the latter. In the same field, Mr. Holmes fed 150 sheep some months, on the produce of seven acres of turnips, going over nine acres of grass; the benefit to the latter did not near equal that
of

of the rape, except in the destruction of moss, which was destroyed by both methods.

C L O V E R.

MR. Holmes has used this grass these six years; he began with six acres, and has extended it as far as seventeen acres last year: he sows 24 lb. of seed per acre. The crops as good as he has seen in England; has mown it twice, but now feeds the second growth. He has tried it on dry lime-stone hills, which are slow in coming to grass, but answer well in clover. For his sheep he finds it of great use. Ewes lamb here about the 17th of march, and when turnips are done, want the clover very much: also in keeping fat sheep for a late market. Course of crops,

1. Turnips on old turf, two ploughings and a slight burning. 2. Turnips. 3. Barley, yielding 18 barrels. 4. Clover. 5. Clover. 6. Wheat, yielding 8 barrels. 7. Oats, ditto 15. Also,

1. Manure a stubble for cabbages. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley, 20 barrels. 4. Clover. 5. Clover. 6. Wheat. 7. Oats.

OCTOBER 3d, taking my leave of Johnstown and its agreeable and hospitable family, I took the road towards Derry, the seat of Michael Head, Esq; through a country much of it bordering on the Shannon, and commanding many fine views of that river; but its nakedness, except at particular places, takes off much from the beauty of the scenery. Near to Derry there are some finer views. From one hill, the road commands the bay of Skeriff, Loch Derg, back to Johnstown; and the river turning under the hills of Achnis, a promontory of wood, which separates them, is fully seen: there are also many hedges, so well grown with scattered trees on the higher side as to have a pleasing effect. I found Mr. Head, on my arrival, just going to dine with a neighbour, Mr. Parker, whose father had worked a very fine mountain improvement, and who would probably be there: this was a sufficient inducement, had there been no other, for me to accompany him. I found Mr. Parker's house so near the river, as sometimes to be washed by it. The improvement I had heard of is a hill of above 40 acres, which was covered with ling, furze, &c. and not worth 6d. an acre thirty-two years ago when the work was begun. He grubbed, ploughed it, and sowed oats, and marled the stubble from the Shannon; the marle, from the steepness of the hill, being carried on the backs of oxen. Upon this he took a crop of wheat, and another of oats, both exceedingly fine, and with the latter sowed the seeds for the grass, which still remains, and has been improving ever since; it is now worth 30s. an acre, and a very pleasing object to the eye, especially since Mr. Parker, junior, has added to the fineness of the verdure and herbage by feeding it with many sheep.

In the same conversation I also learned a few particulars of a bog of twelve acres part of one of 150, improved by Mr. Minchin, near Nenagh. The first operation was to cut main drains six feet deep, and cross ones of 18 inches or

two feet, and as soon as it was a little firm, covered it with lime-stone gravel three inches thick, before the bog would bear a car; but did it by beginning at the edge, and advancing on the part gravelled. Part was tilled, and part left for grafs without ploughing: the meadow thus formed has been exceedingly fine. One uncommon circumstance was, his having paved the bottom of the drains with gravel, in order to prevent cattle from being bogged in them. The expence of the whole improvement 8l. an acre. The profit immense.

IT is to Mr. Head's attention that I am indebted for the following particulars concerning the barony of Owna and Arra. The soil is a light gravelly loam, on a slaty rock, which is almost general through the whole. The rent on an average 15s. for profitable land, and 1s. for mountain; and as there is about half and half, the whole will be 8s. The rise of rent, in 20 twenty years, is about double. Estates are generally large, scarce any so low as 5 or 600l. a year. Farms are all small, none above 3 or 400 acres: many are taken in partnership, three, four, or five families to 100 acres. They divide the land among themselves, each man taking according to his capital. The terms *run-dale* and *changedale* unknown, as is the latter practice. There are no farms without buildings upon them. Laying out money in building better houses would pay no interest at all, as they are perfectly satisfied with their mud cabins. Courses of crops on reclaimed mountain,

1. Marle for oats. 2. Bere. 3. Bere. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats, or english barley. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats. 10. Oats. The number of these crops of oats proportioned to the quantity of marle laid on; but the rule is to take as long as the land will yield, and then leave it to recover itself by weeds. Another course:

1. Potatoes in drills on an exhausted stubble. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats, and so on till none will be got.

THE quantity of wheat is very little; for that little they sow a barrel an acre, and get 8 barrels; medium price, 10d. to 13d. a stone. Of bere they sow a barrel, and get 15. Of oats sow two barrels, the produce 8 to 15, according to being early or late in the course. Price of bere, six-pence to seven-pence halfpenny. Oats, four-pence to six-pence per stone. No pease, beans, clover, or turnips; but they have little patches of flax for their own consumption. Potatoes they very generally cultivate in drills; they plough the stubble twice or thrice, and then open trenches with the plough three feet asunder; in which they put some dung, lay the sets on it, and cover them with the plough if they have horses, or if not with shovels. They keep them clean by constant earthing up with ploughs or shovels. They dig them out, the produce thirty-five barrels per acre. They find that nothing is so good and clean a fallow for corn. Some poor people hire grafs land for them in the lazy bed way, paying 3l. to 5l. 10s. per acre.

THE only manure used besides dung is the shelly marle, dredged up from the bottom of the Shannon. Mr. Head's grandfather was the first who introduced that method of getting at it by bringing men from Dublin used to raising ballast.

ballast. It proved so profitable, that the use has much increased since. It lies irregularly in banks, from 100 to 200 yards from the shore, and under 10 or 12 feet of water in summer, which is the only time they can get it. The price of raising it is from 1s. to 2s. according to circumstances, besides finding boat, ropes, and all tackle; a boat contains 60 bushels, and requires 5 men. They land it on a quay, from whence it is taken in sledge carts to some distance for drying, nor is it dry enough for carting away till the year following. Some think it worth carrying one mile, and even two. The common people do not lay on more than four or five boat loads to an acre, but Mr. Head always ten, and the whole expence he calculates at 40s. Much bad land has been reclaimed by it, and to great profit. All their dung is used for potatoes.

THE tillage of the common people is done with horses, four in a plough, which do half an acre a day: gentlemen use four oxen. The price 8s. an acre. No paring and burning.

THEY shut up their meadows for hay in march or april, and rarely begin to mow till september. I should remark, that I saw the hay making or marring all the way (october 3d) from Johnstown hither, with many fields covered with water, and the cocks forming little islands in them. They are generally two months making it; the crop one to one ton and a half per acre.

THERE is no regular system of cattle in this barony, there not being above four or five graziers; but gentlemen, in their domains, have all the different systems. The common farmers keep a few of most sorts of cattle, except fat ones. No large flocks of sheep, but every farmer a few breeding ewes. The fleeces four to a stone. They sell either lambs, hoggits, or two or three year olds; the price of a two-year old ewe 10s. they have no winter food but grass, even the gentlemen have their fat mutton all winter from the low grass lands on the Shannon, without either hay or turnips. The marled land has a remarkable spring of grass in the winter; the rot is very little known. All keep pigs, which are much increased of late; their pork 32s. a cwt. last year at Limerick; Mr. Head has known it so low as 14s. No proportion between cows and pigs.

IN hiring and stocking farms, many will take them in partnership with no other capital than a little stock of cattle. Difficult to fix the number of years purchase at which land sells. None has been sold in this barony in Mr. Head's memory. Leases to protestants three lives.

THE common mode of labour is that of cottars, they have a cabin and an acre for 30s. and 30s. the grass of a cow, reckoning with them at five pence a day the year round; other labour vibrates from four pence to sixpence. A cottar with a middling family will have two cows; there is not one without a cow. All of them keep as many pigs as they can rear, and some poultry. Their circumstances are rather better than 20 years ago.

A cottar's expences.

Rent of a cabbin and an acre	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Two cows	-	-	-	-	3	0	0
Hay for ditto, one ton	-	-	-	-	1	15	0
Tythe	-	-	-	-	0	4	0
Hearth money	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
One stone of wool a year for the man, one for the woman, and two stones for three children; this is what they ought to have, but the fact does not exceed two stone, one at 17s. and one at 8s.							
Tools	-	-	-	-	0	5	0
Turf, whether bought or in their own labour	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Flax seed, five or six pottles, at 8d.	-	-	-	-	0	3	6
Breaking and scutching, eight stone, at 10d.	-	-	-	-	0	6	8
Heckling ditto, at 10d.	-	-	-	-	0	6	8
Weaving 336 bundles, at 1s. 1d. a score	-	-	-	-	0	16	6
N. B. After heckling 56lb. flax, the rest is tow, which they spin for bags, &c.							
Two pair of brogues, 9s. 9d. and 4 pair soles, 1s. 10d. each, 7s. 4d.	0	17	1				
A pair of woman's shoes, 3s. 3d. and a pair of soles, 1s. 5d.	0	4	8				
A boy of fourteen, two pair, at 2s. 2d. soles, 1s. 1d.	0	3	3				
A hat, 2s. 8d. the boy one, 1s. 6d.	0	4	2				

£. 12 3 6

His receipt.

Deduct from	365 days
Sundays	52
Holyday	1
Bad weather	10
Own work	48
	<hr/> 111

Remain at 5d.	254	-	-	-	5	5	10
The boy of twelve or fourteen, three-pence halfpenny a day					3	14	1
Two pigs, one eat, the other sold for					0	15	0
Two calves, one 20s. one 10s.					1	10	0

£. 11 4 11

N. B. Chickens and ducks pay for salt, soap and candles, and they eat the geese.

WHEN

WHEN my informant, who was a poor man, had finished, I demanded how the 20s. deficiency, with whisky, and the priest, were to be paid; the answer was, that *he must not eat his geese and pig, or else not dress so well*, which probably is the case. Their acre of garden feeds them the year through; nine months on potatoes, and the other three on oaten bread, from their own oats. The consumption of potatoes not increased in twenty years. A family of five persons will eat and waste forty-two stone of potatoes in a week. They are not addicted in any remarkable degree to thieving. The cottars of a farm might easily be taken from it, and yet the farm let without difficulty, for the tenant would soon have others; but it is questioned whether they could easily be made farmers of.

DANCING is very general among the poor people, almost universal in every cabbin. Dancing-masters of their own rank travel through the country from cabbin to cabbin, with a piper or blind fidler; and the pay is six pence a quarter. It is an absolute system of education. Weddings are always celebrated with much dancing; and a Sunday rarely passes without a dance; there are very few among them who will not, after a hard day's work, gladly walk seven miles to have a dance. *John* is not so lively, but then a hard day's work with him is certainly a different affair from what it is with *Paddy*. Other branches of education are likewise much attended to, every child of the poorest family learning to read, write, and cast accounts.

THERE is a very ancient custom here, for a number of country neighbours among the poor people, to fix upon some young woman that ought, as they think, to be married; they also agree upon a young fellow as a proper husband for her; this determined, they send to the fair one's cabbin to inform her, that on the Sunday following *she is to be horsed*, that is, carried on men's backs. She must then provide whisky and cyder for a treat, as all will pay her a visit after mass for a hurling match. As soon as she is *horsed*, the hurling begins, in which the young fellow appointed for her husband, has the eyes of all the company fixed on him; if he comes off conqueror, he is certainly married to the girl, but if another is victorious, he as certainly loses her, for she is the prize of the victor. These trials are not always finished in one Sunday, they take sometimes two or three, and the common expression when they are over is, that *such a girl was goal'd*. Sometimes one barony hurls against another, but a marriageable girl is always the prize. Hurling is a sort of cricket, but instead of throwing the ball in order to knock down a wicket, the aim is to pass it through a bent stick, the ends stuck in the ground. In these matches they perform such feats of activity, as ought to evidence the food they live on to be far from deficient in nourishment.

TYTHES—Potatoes, 5s. Wheat, barley, bere, 5s. Oats, 2s. 6d. Meadow, 2s. They are in the management of proctors, but the greatest hardship.

hardship attending them, is the poor man paying for his garden, while the rich grazier pays nothing, owing to the famous vote of the house of commons.

THERE is only one flour mill in the barony, and the increase of tillage is very trifling, but the whisky stills at Killaloe, trebled in five or six years.

Prices not in the tables.

Wild ducks, 1s. a couple. Teal, 6d. Plover, 2d. Salmon, three half-pence to 3d. per lb. Large pike, 2s. 6d. each. Trout, of twelve inches long, 1d. each. Eels, 1s. a dozen. Eggs, ten a penny in summer, three in winter. Women's labour in harvest, 3d. in winter, 2d. Maid's wages, 1l. 10s. A lad's, 1l. 8s. Mowing, per acre, 2s. 4d. Women earn by spinning, 3d. Hire of a car, with man and horse, 1s. 6d. Threshing wheat, per barrel, 6d. Bere, 4d. Oats, two pence half-penny. Barley, 3d.

BUILDING.

A mud cabbin, 4l.

Ditto of stone and slate, 20l.

A dry wall, five feet high, building	-	-	-	-	0	1	3
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Labour coping	-	-	-	-	0	0	6
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Dashing	-	-	-	-	0	0	2
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Lime, two barrels	-	-	-	-	0	1	4
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Sand	-	-	-	-	0	0	2
------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0	3	5
---	---	---

Besides carting the stones, the mason's perch of house walling, 1s. 6d.

All materials laid at the spot.

Oak bark, 8l. to 9l. a ton.

Cars are made by hatchet men, at 6d. a day.

Timber and labour of one	-	-	-	-	0	16	0
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Iron	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
------	---	---	---	---	---	----	---

£. 1	0	0
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IN the hills above Derry are some very fine slate quarries, that employ 60 men. The quarrymen are paid 3s. a thousand for the slates, and the labourers 5d. a day. They are very fine, and sent by the Shannon to distant parts of the kingdom; the price at the quarry 6s. a thousand, and at the shore 6s. 8d. 400,000 slates are raised to pay the rent only, from which some estimate may be made of the quantity.

MR. Head has made some considerable improvements of waste or rough land by means of marle. His first was a field of 14 acres ten years ago; the soil light, as before described of the country in general; the spontaneous growth, furze

furze and ferns, worth 5s. an acre. He cleared it from stones, which were used for building; the expence small, marled it, and sowed five crops of corn, and with the last of them hay seeds: it became a meadow in two years, and is now worth 30s. an acre. The next was a field of eight acres, the same soil; he broke it up for potatoes, then took one crop of corn, marled it on the stubble, and sowed five crops of corn, laying down with the fifth. Worth 8s. an acre before, now 30s. Five acres and an half were also done, marled on the surface, the effect little; it was therefore ploughed up in four or five years; yielded two crops of good turnips, two of english barley, and then laid down. It is now worth 30s. an acre.

THE next attempt was upon 16 acres, not worth 2s. 6d. an acre, over-run with furze, fern, and heath, with so many stones that clearing them away cost 10s. an acre. Ploughed and burnt it, and took two crops of turnips, then two of oats. Left it to itself for five or six years, and then marled it, since it has yielded four crops of corn, and is now worth 11. 2s. 9d. an acre.

THE last improvement is a field of 11 acres, which has been lately marled.

MR. Head has 400 sheep, and they consist of 100 breeding ewes.—100 lambs.—34 hoggits.—70 three-year old wethers and culled ewes, fat.—46 two year old wethers. He sells annually

Fifty fat wethers	-	-	-	-	57	0	0
Fifty culled ewes, at 18s.	-	-	-	-	45	0	0
Four hundred fleeces, 133 stone, at 18s.	-	-	-	-	119	14	0
					<hr/>		
					£	221	14 0
					<hr/>		

MR. Head has a practice in his fences which deserves universal imitation: it is planting trees for gate-posts. Stone piers are expensive, and always tumbling down; trees are beautiful, and never want repairing. Within 15 years this gentleman has improved Derry so much, that those who had only seen it before, would find it almost a new creation. He has built a handsome stone-house, on the slope of a hill rising from the Shannon, and backed by some fine woods, which unite with many old hedges well planted to form a woodland scene, beautiful in the contrast to the bright expanse of the noble river below: the declivity, on which these woods are, finishes in a mountain, which rises above the whole. The Shannon gives a bend around the adjoining lands, so as to be seen from the house both to the west and north, the lawn falling gradually to a margin of wood on the shore, which varies the outline. The river is two miles broad, and on the opposite shore cultivated inclosures. rise in some places almost to the mountain top, which is very bold.

IT is a very singular demesne; a stripe of very beautiful ground, reaching two miles along the banks of the river, which forms his fence on one side, with a wall on the other. There is so much wood as to render it very pleasing, adding to every day by planting all the fences made or repaired. From several little hills, which rise in different parts of it, extensive views of the river are commanded

commanded quite to Portumna ; but these are much eclipsed by that from the top of the hill above the slate quarry. From thence you see the river for at least 40 miles, from Portumna to 20 miles beyond Limerick. It has the appearance of a fine basin, two miles over, into which three great rivers lead, being the north and south course and the bay of Skeriff. The reaches of it one beyond another to Portumna are fine. At the foot of the mountain Mr. Head's demesne extends in a shore of rich woodland.

OCTOBER 7th, took my leave of Mr. Head, after passing four days very agreeably. Through Killaloe, over the Shannon, a very long bridge of many arches ; went out of the road to see a fall of that river at Castle Connel, where there is such an accompaniment of wood as to form a very pleasing scenery ; the river takes a very rapid rocky course, around a projecting rock, on which a gentleman has built a summer-house, and formed a terrace : it is a striking spot. To Limerick. Laid at Bennis's, the first inn we had slept in from Dublin. God preserve us this journey from another !

THE 8th, leaving that place, I took the road through Palace to Cullen. The first six or seven miles from Limerick has a great deal of corn, which shews that tillage is gaining even upon bullocks themselves. I observed with much pleasure, that all the cottars had their little gardens surrounded with banks well planted with osiers. To the Rev. Mr. Lloyd's, at Castle Lloyd, near Cullen, a gentleman who I found as able and willing as he had been represented, to give me the intelligence I wished relative to the grazing grounds around him.—The following particulars, which I owe to him, concern more immediately the barony of Clanwilliam in Tipperary ; the same in Limerick, Small County, and the part of Coonagh next Clanwilliam. In these parts the soil and management are much the same : that of Oonabeg nearly, but not quite equal.

THE soil is a loam of a yellowish brown, friable, but putrid and mixed with a small quantity of grit stones upon a lime-stone rock, at the depth of two, three, and four feet ; much of it is very dry, but the richest has what is here called a *tender moist skin*, which yields so much to the tread of beasts that it breaks under them : the richer and the more improved it is, the more so. It is a great error to assert, that it would not do for tillage, for there is none better for the purpose if properly managed.

THE average rent of the rich parts of this tract is 30s. an acre. In Coonagh there are 19,313 acres, half of it not worth 5s. an acre, being mountainous. In the last twenty years, the rents of the rich lands have risen about a fourth, and two-thirds since the year 1748.

AVERAGE of the county of Tipperary, 12s. 6d. Ditto of Limerick, 10s. 6d. Ditto of Corke, 5s.

ESTATES are generally very large, but some so low as 300l. a year. Farms rise from small ones in partnership to 5 or 6000 acres. The tillage acts have had the effect of lessening them evidently. The great system of this district is that of grazing. Bullocks are bought in at the fairs of Ballinasloe, Newport, Bannagher, Toomavarra, &c. in the months of september, october, and november, the prices from 5l. to 8l. average, 6l. Twenty years ago beasts were bought at 40s. which now could not be got under 4l. The prices having doubled, allowing at the same time for the improved size of beasts. As soon as bought, they are turned into the coarsest ground of the farm; the fattening stock being put into the after-grass, the lean ones are turned after them; if the farmer has a tract of mountain, they will be turned into that at first. They are put to hay after christmas, and kept at it till may. An acre of hay for three bullocks is reckoned a good allowance, the quantity will be from three to four tons. It is given scattered upon the ground in dry fields, till the latter end of april, or the beginning of may, when they are collected into a small space, in order for the grass elsewhere to grow. About the 10th of may they are put to grass for the summer; and in this, the method is to turn into every field the stock which they imagine will be maintained by it, and leave the whole there till fat. The Corke butchers come in july and august to make their bargains, and begin to draw in september, and continue to take them till december. Some graziers keep them with hay till the market rises, but it is not a common practice. It is thought that they begin to lose flesh about the 20th of november; and that after the first nothing is gained. Average selling price, 9l. 10s. It vibrates from 8l. to 11l. 10s.

ANNEXED to this bullock system is that of buying in bull calves, six months old, in september and october, from 20s. to 40s. each, some to 3l. these are fed in well sheltered prichts with grass and hay, and sold in may and june with 20s. profit upon an average. One acre of hay will yield enough for nine calves; the proportion is, to buy a calf to every acre.

UPON other parts of the farm, where calves are not fed in this manner, sheep are substituted. Much land is hired here by Tipperary farmers, who bring their sheep to it; and where this is not the case, the Limerick farmers have both coarse and rich land, which enables them to go into sheep. They keep stocks of breeding ewes. If a man has 100 ewes, he will have 100 lambs, 100 yearlings, 100 two-year olds, 100 three-year olds, selling every year 50 three-year old fat wethers, and 50 culled ewes, viz.

50 wethers, at 25s.	—	—	—	—	62	10	0
50 culled ewes, fat, 23s.	—	—	—	—	57	10	0
400 fleeces, 133 stone of wool, at 15s.	—	—	—	—	99	15	0
<hr/>					<hr/>		
500 Total flock					£.	219	15 0
<hr/>					<hr/>		

If a man has only rich land in those baronies, without any in Tipperary, then he keeps only bullocks regularly; but he buys in some *boggit* sheep, which he keeps a year, and fells fat. The Tipperary system is supposed to be the most profitable, for they have given more for the Limerick lands than the Limerick people themselves. Besides these methods, there is another, which is buying in cows in march, april, may, and june, at 3l. to 6l. each, and selling them fat with 40s. profit. This is very profitable, but subject to difficulties, for they are troublesome to pick up, and much subject to distempers.

Calculation of the profit of grazing bullocks.

One bullock bought in at	-	-	-	-	-	6	0	0
Rent of one acre and one-third	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0
County cels, at 9d.	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	0
Mowing, making, carting, and stacking hay	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	0
Herdsmen, at 12l. a year	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
Losses on stock, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	6
						8	6	6
Interest of 8l. at 6 per cent	-	-	-	-	-	0	9	7
						£. 8	16	1

PRODUCE.

Sale of a bullock	-	-	-	-	-	9	0	0
Value of the after-grass of one-third of an acre	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	4
						9	3	4
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	8	16	1
Profit on one acre and one-third	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	3
Which is per acre	-	-	-	-	-	£. 0	5	6

This profit is, I think, very low, so low that nothing but the ease with which grazing bullocks is carried on, could induce a man to be satisfied with it.

THE size to which oxen now come upon this rich land is $5\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. twenty years ago it was $4\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. the additional $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt. is owing not to any improvement in the land, or management, but of the breed.

Particulars of a grazing farm at Cullen.

120 acres in all. 110 bullocks. 40 lambs. 4 cows. 7 acres of meadow. $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre, herdsman's garden. 2 acres of orchard. 246l. rent, or 41s. per acre,

THE

THE number of sheep kept in this neighbourhood has decreased, owing to the division into smaller farms. The winter food for them in the rich tracts is grafs, except in fnows, when they turn them to their hay stacks, they are very little troubled with the rot. The rise in the price of wool, 5s. a stone in 30 years.

THERE are but few dairies; the little farmers have the chief. The breed of the cows is generally half english, half irish. They are kept on the poorest grounds, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre, or $1\frac{3}{4}$, keeps a cow the year round; the usual produce is 1 cwt. of butter, and 20s. horn money, or 3l. in all; the winter food hay, $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre to each. The calf is always reared; valued when it drops at 2s. 6d. or 3s. the medium price of a cow, 5l. There have been many english bulls introduced for improving the cattle of the country, at a considerable expence, and great exertions in the breed of sheep; some persons, Mr. Dexter chiefly, have brought english rams, which they let out at seventeen guineas a season, and also at 10s. 6d. a ewe, which indicates a spirited attention.

Hogs all the way from Limerick are of a very good breed, far superior to the common irish, and the number greatly increased.

RESPECTING tillage, the chief is done by little farmers, for the graziers apply themselves solely to cattle. It is entirely connected with breaking up grafs for potatoes—the quantity small.

1. Grafs potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats, and then leave it for grafs without sowing any seeds. With gentlemen it is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats, or english barley. 5. Oats, left smooth to grafs itself.—Shame to them for being as bad farmers as the paddies!

THE grafs is let for the potatoe crop to the poor people, who pay from 5l. to six guineas an acre for it; no manure used; nine barrels of seed at 20 stone, plant an acre; the usual season april, and the beginning of may. In planting, they dig the whole ground, except the two first fods, and when they have got seven or eight feet, form trenches in the common manner; they weed them carefully; the produce about 120 barrels per acre; price 2s. to 3s. 6d. a barrel; they pay as much rent for the second crop as the first, and it is as good, though they don't plant it, trusting to the little potatoes left in the ground, and which they spread in digging; but this is a most slovenly practice; if they were to plant the second crop it would be better than the first, provided it is as good without it.

Expences of an acre.

Rent	-	-	-	-	6	0	0
Nine barrels of feed, at 3s.	-	-	-	-	1	7	0
Planting, and digging, 16 men, at 8d.				0	10	8	
Planting, 12 children, at 4d.	-	-	-	0	4	0	
					0	14	8
3 A 2				Carried over	£. 8	1	8

	Brought over	£.	s.	d.
Trenching, 12 men - - - - -	o 8 o	8	1	8
Cutting fets, eight women, at 4d. - - - - -	o 2 8			
Second trenching, fix men - - - - -	o 4 o			
	<hr/>	1	9	4
		8	16	4
Digging out, twenty-fix men, at 8d. - - - - -	o 17 4			
Picking, twelve women - - - - -	o 4 o			
Carrying home, two horses - - - - -	o 3 o			
Tythe - - - - -	o 11 o			
	<hr/>	10	11	8
		<hr/>		

PRODUCE.

One hundred and twenty, at 3s. - - - - -	18 o o
Expences - - - - -	10 11 8
	<hr/>
Profit - - - - -	£. 7 8 4
	<hr/>

Prime cost, 1s. 2½d. per barrel.

THEY do not plough the potatoe land for bere at all, but trench it in with spade and shovel, sow six bushels an acre, and get 20 barrels, at 7s on an average. They then plough once for oats, sow six bushels, and get 16 to 20 barrels, worth s. a barrel on a medium, at 12 stone. The second crop of oats is as good as the first. In the gentleman's course the wheat is trenched in if the season is wet, but ploughed in if it is dry; twenty stone of seed per acre, the product ten barrels, at 20 stone, and the price 20s. Plough twice for the english barley; sow five or six bushels per acre, and get 20 barrels, 17 stone per barrel, at 8d. a stone. No lime, marle, or lime-stone gravel used, nor clover, pease, beans, or turnips sown; but enough flax is sown by every poor family for their own use; and some sell it at fairs, after scutching, at 4s. to 5s. a stone. There are many weavers about the country, who make bundle cloth, and some a yard wide, for the poor people; they live both in towns and villages. All the women spin flax. They shut up their fields for hay the beginning of june, generally mow in september, the crop three to four tons an acre, sometimes five or six. It is sold standing for 40s. an acre.

TILLAGE is done with horses, four in a plough, and do half an acre a day, four or five inches deep; the price 7s. to 10s. In hiring and stocking they reckon that 3l. an acre will do for a grazing farm, but much less for tillage. Leases are for thirty one years or three lives.

lives. Land sells at twenty years purchase: there has been a fall of rents from 1772, to the American war, but since that time they have been rising. The religion all roman catholic.

MUCH of the labour is done by servants, hired into the house of little farmers that keep dairies, &c. Much also by cottars, who have a cabbin and an acre and a half of potatoe garden, which are valued at three guineas; they have also two cows, at 50s. a cow. Three-fourths of an acre under potatoes every year, and the rest oats and flax; they get about 120 barrels an acre, which crop, with the oats, feed them the year through; they are much more eaten than they were 20 years ago; two barrels will last a family a week as they are usually consumed. They all keep a pig, a dog, two cats, and some poultry; their circumstances are better than they were twenty years ago; their pig they sell, but they eat some poultry, particularly geese. Some of them buy turf for fuel, which costs them fifteen shillings: but many depend on breaking and stealing hedge-wood; they are much given to pilfering.

Cottar's account.

Cabbin and $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	3
Grass of two cows	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0
Turf	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
Tythe	-	-	-	-	-	0	11	0
Seed flax, four pottles	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	4
20 bundles of cloth for the man						}	0	3
20 ————— for the woman								
7 ————— for three children								

47 weaving, at $\frac{1}{4}$ d. - - - - -

N. B. Hackled, &c. by themselves

One stone of wool for the whole family	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	0
Weaving ditto	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	4
Shoes	-	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Hats	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	0
Hearth money	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0

Duties to the Priest.

Two confessions	-	-	-	-	0	2	2
A christening	-	-	-	-	0	1	6
Sundries	-	-	-	-	0	1	4
						0	5

£. 11 18 11

His

His Receipt.

Days	365
Sundays	52
Holydays	30
Bad weather	10
His own garden	20
	<hr/> 112

253 at 5d.

- - £. 5 5 5

The eldest child, 10 or 12 years old, 2d. a day for 253 days	2	2	1
Other earnings of the family	-	-	-
A pig, bought at 7s. sold at 47s.	-	-	-
Poultry	-	-	-
One calf	-	-	-
Two cwt. of Butter	-	-	-
			<hr/>
			15 12 6
Expences	-	-	-
			<hr/> 11 18 11
Remains for unspecified demands, casualties, &c.	-	-	-
			<hr/> 3 13 7

MANY of the poor here have no cows; there are cabbins on the road side that have no land; the inhabitants of them are called *spalpeens*, who are paid for their labour in cash, by the month, &c. Some of them pay no rent at all, others 10s. a year; and these are the people who hire grafs land for their potatoes; it is certain that the cottars are much better off than these spalpeens, who can get but little milk, buying it part of the summer half year only of the dairy farmers.

TYTHES. Wheat, 8s. Bere, 7s. Barley, 7s. Oats, 4s. 6d. Potatoes, 11s. Meadow, 2s. 8d.

Prices not in the tables.

Womens labour, reaping, 4d. Other work, 3d. Making hand turf, 6d. Farming man's wages, 3l. to 4l. Farming maid's ditto, 1l. 12s. Mowing, per acre, 2s. 6d. to 3s. in 1745, only 1s 6d. Ditching, 9d. a perch. Double ones, 1s. 6d. seven feet wide at top, three and a half at bottom, and four deep, and they will earn 8d. a day at it. Hire of a car, 1s. 6d. a day. In 1745, it was 1s. Price of a car, 1l. 18s. 3d. Building a mud cabbin, 3l. Stone and flate, 25l. Mason's perch of stone walls for labour, 9d. six feet high complete, 16s. Oak, 4l. a ton; twenty years ago, 2l. Lime, 10½d. a barrel, burnt with culm, brought 25 miles.

MR. Lloyd has worked a very great improvement of a shaking morafs, which when he began was worth only 5s. an acre. The first businefs was banking it, from a river subject to floods, with a parallel back cut, to carry off the water that came over his bank. He then carried a central

tral drain through it and a mile beyond it, to gain a fall. Next he subdivided it into fields, from 10 to 20 acres, by ditches planted with quick, The land was over-run with much underwood and sedgy tussocks, &c. these were all grubbed, cut up, and burned; after which cattle were put in, the improvement being finished; and it has grown better and better ever since, being now worth 30s. an acre: some of it is actually let at 38s. It was a very expensive undertaking, owing to the stream above him belonging to a neighbour, who did not second his undertaking; he was obliged to make a long bank upon this account only, partly over a turf bog, which was blown up once, but made again with great difficulty; fourteen spits deep were cleared, and a foundation of rammed clay laid: this cost 1000l. it has, however, stood well since.

LIME Mr. Lloyd tried in a very satisfactory experiment; he broke up one of the rich hills near Castle Lloyd, and limed half a field; afterwards upon laying the whole down, the part limed has continued of a much deeper green and more luxuriant herbage than the other half.

OCTOBER 10th, left Castle Lloyd, and took the road by Galbally to Mitchel's Town, through a country part of it a rich grazing tract; but from near Galbally, to the Galty mountains, there are large spaces of flat lands, covered with heath and furze, that are exceedingly improveable, yet seem as neglected as if nothing could be made of them. The road leads immediately at the northern foot of the Galties, which form the most formidable and romantic boundary imaginable; the sides are almost perpendicular, and reach a height, which piercing the clouds, seem formed rather for the boundaries of two conflicting empires, than the property of private persons. The variety of the scenery exhibited by these mountains is great; the road after passing some miles parallel with them, turns over a hill, a continuation of their chain, and commands an oblique view of their southern side, which has much more variety than the northern; it looks down at the same time upon a long plain, bounded by these and other mountains, several rivers winding through it, which join in the center, near Mitchel's Town. I had been informed that this was a miserable place: it has at least a situation worthy of the proudest capital.

UPON my arrival, Lord Kingsborough, who possesses almost the whole country, procured me the information I requested in the most liberal manner, and a residence since has enabled me to perfect it. His Lordship's vast property extends from Kildorrery to Clogheen, beyond Ballyporeen, a line of more than 16 Irish miles, and it spreads in breadth from five to ten miles. It contains every variety of land, from the fertility of grazing large bullocks to the mountain heath the cover of grouse. The profitable land lets from 8s. to 25s. an acre, but the whole does not on an average yield more than 2s. 6d. Such a field for future improvements is therefore rarely to be found. On the cold and bleak hills of
Scotland

Scotland estates of greater extent may be found, but lying within twenty miles of Corke, the most southerly part of Ireland, admits a rational prophesy that it will become one of the first properties in Europe.

THE size of farms held by occupying tenants is in general very small, Lord Kingborough having released them from the bondage of the middle men. Great tracts are held in partnership; and the amount held by single farmers rises from 5l. to 50l. a year, with a very few large farms.

THE soils are as various as in such a great extent they may be supposed: the worst is the wet morassy land, on a whitish gravel, the spontaneous growth, rushes (*juncus conglomeratus*) and heath (*erica vulgaris*); this yields a scanty nourishment to cows and half-starved young cattle. Large tracts of wet land has a black peat or a turf surface; this is very reclaimable, and there are immense tracts of it. The profitable soil is in general a sandy or a gravelly loam, of a reddish brown colour, and the principal distinction is its being on lime or grit stone, the former generally the best. It declines in value from having a yellow sand or a yellow clay near the surface under it. There are tracts of such incomparable land that I have seen very little equal to it, except in Tipperary, Limerick, and Roscommon. A deep friable loam, moist enough for the spontaneous growth to fat a bullock, and dry enough to be perfectly under command in tillage: if I was to name the characteristics of an excellent soil, I should say *that* upon which you may fat an ox, and feed off a crop of turnips. By the way I recollect little or no such land in England, yet is it not uncommon in Ireland. Quarries of the finest lime-stone are found in almost every part of the estate.

THE tracts of mountain are of a prodigious extent; the Galties only are six or seven miles long, from one to four miles across; and more improveable upon the whole than any land I have seen, turf and lime-stone being on the spot, and a gentle exposure hanging to the south. In every inaccessible cliff there are mountain ash, (*fraxinus excelsior*) oak, (*quercus robur*) holly, (*ilex aquifolium*) birch, (*betula alba*) willow, (*salix*) hazel, (*corylus avellana*) and white thorn, (*cratægus oxyacantha*) and even to a considerable height up the mountain, which, with the many old stumps scattered about them, prove that the whole was once a forest, an observation applicable to every part of the estate.

THE tillage here extends no farther than what depends on potatoes, on which root they subsist as elsewhere. They sometimes manure the grass for them, and take a second crop; after which they follow them with oats, till the soil is so exhausted as to bear no longer, when they leave it to weeds and trumpery, which vile system has spread itself so generally over all the old meadow and pasture of the estate, that it has given it a face of desolation—turze, (*eulex europæa*) broom, (*spartium scoparium*) fern, (*pteris aquilina*) and rushes owing to this and to neglect, occupy seven-eighths of it. The melancholy appearance of the lands arising from this, which, with miserable and unplanted mounds,

mounds for fences, with no gate but a furze bush stuck in a gap, or some stones piled on each other, altogether form a scene the more dreary, as an oak, an ash or an elm, are almost as great a rarity, (save in the plantations of the present Lord) as an olive, an orange, or a mulberry.

Of potatoes, eight barrels of seed plant an acre, which yields sixty barrels, at twenty-one stone; the average price 4s. 4d.

Planting, fourteen men, at 6½d.	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	7
Trenching, fourteen ditto	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	7
Leading the dung	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0
Spreading, six men	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	3
Eight barrels seed	-	-	-	-	-	1	14	8
Weeding by the women	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
Taking up, sixty men	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	6
Carting home, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	0	15	0
						<hr/>		
						£.6	0	7

PRODUCE:

Sixty, at 4s. 4d.	-	-	-	-	-	13	0	0
Expences	-	-	-	-	-	6	0	7
						<hr/>		
						£.6	19	5

Prime cost, 2s. a barrel.

THEY lay them up in holes in the field. The second crop is generally the best. Of oats they sow two barrels, and reap from 8 to 15. There is no wheat, and very little barley. Clover and turnips, rape, beans, and peas, quite unknown. The rents are paid by cattle, and of these dairy cows are the chief stock. The little farmers manage their own; the larger ones let them to dairymen for one cwt. of butter each cow, and 12s. to 15s. horn money; but the man has a privilege of four collops, and an acre of land and cabbin to every twenty cows. The people, most attentive to their own interest, are, however, getting out of this system, from the innumerable rascalities of these dairymen, they will play twenty tricks to keep them from taking the bull, in order to have the longer season; and to force them to give down their milk, they have a very delicate custom of blowing them where ————, but I have heard of this practice in other parts.

THE winter food is straw and hay at night; not many of them are housed. In the breeding system they are very deficient. Vast numbers of calves are killed at two or three days old for an execrable veal they call *flagging bob*, I suppose from the animal not being old enough to stand steady on its legs: they sell at 2s. or 2s. 6d. a head. A good cow sells from 5l. to 6l. 6s. and a calf of six or eight months, at 20s. or 22s. Sheep are kept in very small numbers; a man will have two, or even one, and he thinks it worth his while to walk ten or twelve miles to a fair, with a straw band tied to the leg of the lamb, in order to sell it for 3s. 6d. an undoubted proof of the poverty of the

country. Markets are crowded for this reason, for there is nothing too trifling to carry; a yard of linen, a fleece of wool, a couple of chickens, will carry an unemployed pair of hands ten miles. In the mountains are a small breed of sheep, which are as delicate mutton when properly fattened as the welch, and of so hardy a breed as to live upon heath, furze, &c. in winter as well as summer. Hogs are kept in such numbers that the little towns and villages swarm with them; pigs and children bask and roll about, and often resemble one another so much, that it is necessary to look twice before the *human face divine* is confessed. I believe there are more pigs in Mitchelstown than human beings, and yet propagation is the only trade that flourished here for ages.

TILLAGE is done by horses; four in a plough do half an acre a day, five or six inches deep; the price 6s. to 10s. an acre.

LABOUR is chiefly done in the cottar system, which has been so often explained; there are here every gradation of the lower classes, from the spalpeens, many among them strangers, who build themselves a wretched cabin in the road, and have neither land, cattle, nor turf, rising to the regular cottar, and from him to the little joint tenant, who, united with many others, takes some large farm in partnership; still rising to the greater farmer.

THE population is very great. It is but few districts in the north that would equal the proportion that holds on this estate; the cabins are innumerable, and like most irish cabins, swarm with children. Wherever there is many people, and little employment, idleness and its attendants must abound.

IT is not to be expected that so young a man as Lord Kingsborough, just come from the various gaiety of Italy, Paris, and London, should, in so short a space as two years, do much in a region so wild as Mitchelstown; a very short narrative however, will convince the reader, that the time he has spent here, has not been thrown away. He found his immense property in the hands of that species of tenant which we know so little of in England, but which in Ireland have flourished almost to the destruction of the kingdom, the *middle man*, whose business and whose industry consists in hiring great tracts of land as cheap as he can, and re-letting them to others as dear as he can, by which means that beautiful gradation of the pyramid, which connects the broad base of the poor people with the great nobleman they support, is broken; he deals only with his own tenant, the multitude is abandoned to the humanity and feelings of others, which to be sure may prompt a just and tender conduct; whether it does or not, let the misery and poverty of the lower classes speak, who are thus assigned over. This was the situation of nine tenths of his property. Many leases being out, he rejected the trading tenant, and let every man's land to him, who occupied it at the rent he had himself received before. During a year that I was employed in letting his farms, I never omitted any opportunity of confirm-
ing

ing him in this system, as far as was in my power, from a conviction that he was equally serving himself and the publick in it; he will never quit it without having reason afterwards for regret.

IN a country changing from licentious barbarity into civilized order, building is an object of perhaps greater consequence than may at first be apparent. In a wild, or but half cultivated tract, with no better edifice than a mud cabin, what are the objects that can impress a love of order on the mind of man? He must be wild as the roaming herds; savage as his rocky mountains; confusion, disorder, riot, have nothing better than himself to damage or destroy: but when edifices of a different solidity and character arise; when great sums are expended, and numbers employed to rear more expressive monuments of industry and order, it is impossible but new ideas must arise, even in the uncultivated mind; it must feel something, first to respect, and afterwards to love; gradually seeing that in proportion as the country becomes more decorated and valuable, licentiousness will be less profitable, and more odious. Mitchelstown, till his Lordship made it the place of his residence, was a den of vagabonds, thieves, rioters, and whiteboys; but I can witness to its being now as orderly and peaceable as any other irish town, much owing to this circumstance of building, and thereby employing such numbers of the people. Lord Kingsborough, in a short space of time, has raised considerable edifices; a large mansion for himself, beautifully situated on a bold rock, the edge of a declivity, at the bottom of which is a river, and commanding a large tract of country, with as fine a boundary of mountain as I have seen; a quadrangle of offices; a garden of five english acres, surrounded with a wall, hot-houses, &c. Besides this, three good stone and slate houses upon three farms, and engaged for three others, more considerable, which are begun; others repaired, and several cabbins built substantially.

So naked a country as he found his estate, called for other exertions, to invoke the Dryades it was necessary to plant, and they must be coy nymphs indeed if they are not in a few years propitious to him. He brought a skilful nurseryman from England, and formed twelve acres of nursery. It begins to shew itself; above ten thousand perch of hedges are made, planted with quick and trees; and several acres, securely inclosed on advantageous spots, and filled with young and thriving plantations. Trees were given, gratis, to the tenantry, and premiums begun for those who plant most, and preserve them best, besides fourscore pounds a year offered for a variety of improvements in agriculture the most wanted upon the estate.

MEN, who from long possession of landed property, become gradually convinced of the importance of attending to it, may at last work some improvements without meriting any considerable portion of praise; but that a young man, warm from pleasure, should do it, has a much superior claim. Lord Kingsborough has, in this respect, a great deal of merit; and for the sake

both of himself and his country, I heartily wish he may *steadily* persevere in that line of conduct which his understanding has once told him, and must continue to tell him, is so greatly for the advantage of himself, his family and the publick.

It is not uncommon, especially in mountainous countries, to find objects that much deserve the attention of travellers intirely neglected by them. There are a few instances of this upon Lord Kingsborough's estate, in the neighbourhood of Mitchelstown; the first I shall mention, is a cave at Skeheenrinky, on the road between Cahir and that place: the opening to it is a cleft of rock in a lime stone hill, so narrow as to be difficult to get into it. I descended by a ladder of about twenty steps, and then found myself in a vault of a hundred feet long, and fifty or sixty high: a small hole, on the left, leads from this a winding course of I believe not less than half an irish mile, exhibiting a variety that struck me much. In some places the cavity in the rock is so large, that when well lighted up by candles, (not flambeaux, Lord Kingsborough once shewed it me with them, and we found their smoak troublesome) it takes the appearance of a vaulted cathedral, supported by massy columns. The walls, cieling, floor, and pillars, are by turns composed of every fantastic form; and often of very beautiful incrustations of spar, some of which glitters so much, that it seems powdered with diamonds, and in others the cieling is formed of that sort which has so near a resemblance to a cauliflower. The spar formed into columns by the dropping of water has taken some very regular forms; but others are different, folded in plaits of light drapery, which hang from their support in a very pleasing manner. The angles of the walls seem fringed with icicles. One very long branch of the cave, which turns to the north, is in some places so narrow and low, that one crawls into it, when it suddenly breaks into large vaulted spaces, in a thousand forms. The spar in all this cave is very brilliant, and almost equal to Bristol stone. For several hundred yards in the larger branch, there is a deep water at the bottom of the declivity to the right, which the common people call the river. A part of the way is over a sort of potter's clay, which moulds into any form, and is of a brown colour: a very different soil from any in the neighbouring country. I have seen the famous cave in the Peak, but think it very much inferior to this: and Lord Kingsborough, who has viewed the Grot d'Aucel in Burgundy, says that it is not to be compared with it.

BUT the commanding region of the Galties deserves more attention. Those who are fond of scenes in which nature reigns in all her wild magnificence, should visit this stupendous chain. It consists of many vast mountains, thrown together in an assemblage of the most interesting features, from boldness and height of the declivities, freedom of outline, and variety of parts; filling a space of about six miles by three or four.

Galtymore

Galtymore is the highest point, and rises like the lord and father of the surrounding progeny. From the top you look down upon a great extent of mountain, which shelves away from him to the south, east, and west; but to the north, the ridge is almost a perpendicular declivity. On that side the famous golden vale of Limerick and Tipperary spreads a rich level to the eye, bounded by the mountains of Clare, King's and Queen's counties, with the course of the Shannon, for many miles below Limerick. To the south you look over alternate ridges of mountains, which rise one beyond another, till in a clear day the eye meets the ocean near Dungarvon. The mountains of Waterford and Knockmal-down fill up the space to the south-east. The western is the most extensive view; for nothing stops the eye till Mangerton and Macgilly Cuddy's Reeks point out the spot where Killarney's lake calls for a farther excursion. The prospect extends into eight counties, Corke, Kerry, Waterford, Limerick, Clare, Queen's, Tipperary, King's.

A little to the west of this proud summit, below it in a very extraordinary hollow, is a circular lake of two acres, reported to be unfathomable. The descriptions which I have read of the craters of exhausted volcanoes, leave very little doubt of this being one; and the conical regularity of the summit of Galty more, speaks the same language. East of this *respectable* hill, to use Sir William Hamilton's language, is a declivity of about one quarter of a mile, and there Galty beg rises in a yet more regular cone, and between the two hills is another lake, which from position seems to have been once the crater which threw up Galty beg, as the first mentioned was the origin of Galty more. Beyond the former hill is a third lake, and east of that another hill; I was told of a fourth, with another corresponding mountain. It is only the mere summit of these mountains which rise above the lakes. Speaking of them *below*, they may be said to be on the tops of the hills; they are all of them at the bottom of an almost regularly circular hollow. On the side, next the mountain top, are walls of perpendicular rocks, in regular strata, and some of them piled on each other, with an appearance of art rather than nature. In these rocks the eagles, which are seen in numbers on the Galties, have their nests. Supposing the mountains to be of volcanic origin, and these lakes the craters, of which I have not a doubt; they are objects of the greatest curiosity, for there is an unusual regularity in every considerable summit, having its corresponding crater; but without this circumstance the scenery is interesting in a very great degree. The mountain summits, which are often wrapped in the clouds, at other times exhibit the freest outline; the immense scoop'd hollows which sink at your feet, declivities of so vast a depth as to give one terror to look down; with the unusual forms of the lower region of hills, particularly

cularly Bull hill, and Round hill, each a mile over, yet rising out of circular vales, with the regularity of semi-globes, unite upon the whole, to exhibit a scenery to the eye, in which the parts are of a magnitude so commanding; a character so interesting, and a variety so striking, that they well deserve to be examined by every curious traveller.

NOR are these immense outlines the whole of what is to be seen in this great range of mountains. Every Glen has its beauties; there is a considerable mountain river, or rather torrent, in every one of them; but the greatest are the Funcheon, between Sefang and Galty more; The Limestone river, between Galty more and Round hill, and the Grouse river, between Coolegarranroe, and Mr. O'Callaghan's mountain; these present to the eye, for a tract of about three miles, every variety that rock, water, and mountain can give, thrown into all the fantastic forms which art may attempt in ornamented grounds, but always fails in. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the water, when not discoloured by rain, its lucid transparency shews, at considerable depths, every pebble no bigger than a pin, every rocky basin alive with trout and eels, that play and dash among the rocks, as if endowed with that native vigor which animate, in a superior degree, every inhabitant of the mountains, from the bounding red deer, and the soaring eagle, down even to the fishes of the brook. Every five minutes you have a waterfall in these glens, which in any other region, would stop every traveller to admire it. Sometimes the vale takes a gentler declivity, and presents to the eye, at one stroke, twenty or thirty falls, which render the scenery all alive with the motion; the rocks are tossed about in the wildest confusion, and the torrent bursts by turns from above, beneath, and under them; while the back ground is always filled up with the mountains which stretch around.

IN the western Glen is the finest cascade in all the Galties; there are two falls, with a basin in the rock between, but from some points of view they appear one; the rock over which the water tumbles is about sixty feet high. A good line in which to view these objects is either to take the Killarney and Mallow road, to Mitchelstown, and from thence by Lord Kingsborough's new one, to Skeheenrinky, there to take one of the Glens, to Galty beg, and Galty more, and return to Mitchelstown by the Wolf's track, Temple hill, and the Waterfall: or, if the Cork road is travelling, to make Dobbin's inn, at Ballyporeen, the head quarters, and view them from thence.

* * * * *

HAVING heard much of the beauties of a part of the Queen's county, I had not before seen, I took that line of country in my way on a journey to Dublin.

FROM

FROM Mitchelstown to Cashel, the road leads as far as Galbally in the route already travelled from Cullen; towards Cashel the country is various. The only object deserving attention, are the plantations of Thomastown, the seat of Francis Mathew, Esq; they consist chiefly of hedge-row trees in double and treble rows, are well grown, and of such extent as to form an uncommon woodland scene in Ireland. Found the widow Holland's inn, at Cashel, clean and very civil. Take the road to Urlingsford. The rich sheep pastures, part of the famous golden vale, reach between three and four miles, from Cashel to the great bog by Botany Hill, noted for producing a greater variety of plants than common. That bog is separated by only small tracts of land, from the string of bogs which extend through the Queen's County, from the great bog of Allen; it is here of considerable extent, and exceedingly improveable. Then enter a low marshy bad country, which grows worse after passing the 66th mile stone, and successive bogs in it. Breakfast at Johnstown, a regular village on a slight eminence, built by Mr. Hayley; it is near the Spaw of Ballyspellin. Rows of trees are planted; but their heads all cut off, I suppose from their not thriving, being planted too old. Immediately on leaving these planted avenues, enter a row of eight or ten new cabbins, at a distance from each other, which appear to be a new undertaking, the land about them all pared and burnt, and the ashes in heaps.

ENTER a fine planted country, with much corn and good thriving quick hedges for many miles. The road leads through a large wood, which joins Lord Ashbrook's plantations, whose house is situated in the midst of more wood than almost any one I have seen in Ireland. Pass Durrow; the country for two or three miles continues all inclosed with fine quick hedges, is beautiful, and has some resemblance to the best parts of Essex. Sir Robert Staple's improvements join this fine tract; they are completed in a most perfect manner, the hedges well-grown; cut, and in such excellent order, that I can scarcely believe myself to be in Ireland. His gates are all of iron. These sylvan scenes continue through other seats beautifully situated, amidst gentle declivities of the finest verdure, full grown woods, excellent hedges, and a pretty river winding by the house. The whole environs of several would be admired in the best parts of England.

CROSS a great bog, within sight of Lord De Vescey's plantations. The road leads over it, being drained for that purpose by deep cuts on either side. I should apprehend this bog to be among the most improveable in the country.

SLEPT at Ballyroan, at an inn kept by three animals, who call themselves women; met with more impertinence than at any other in Ireland. It is an execrable hole. In three or four miles pass Sir John Parnel's,
prettily

prettily situated in a neatly dressed lawn, with much wood about it, and a lake quite alive with wild fowl.

PASS Monstereven, and cross directly a large bog, drained and partly improved; but all of it bearing grass, and seems in a state that might easily be reduced to rich meadow, with only a dressing of lime. Here I got again into the road I had travelled before.

I must in general remark, that from near Urlingford to Dawson Court, near Monstereven, which is completely across the Queen's County, is a line of above thirty english miles, and is for that extent by much the most improved of any I have seen in Ireland. It is generally well planted, has many woods, and not consisting of patches of plantation just by gentlemens houses, but spreading over the whole face of the country, so as to give it the richness of an english woodland scene. What a country would Ireland be had the inhabitants of the rest of it improved the whole like this!

END OF PART I.

A

T O U R, &c.

P A R T II.

Observations on the preceding Intelligence.

TO register the minutes received upon such a journey as this, and leave them simply to speak for themselves, would have its use; but it would leave to the inquisitive reader so much labour and trouble in collecting general facts, that not one in five hundred would attempt it. That it is a matter of importance to have accurate general ideas of a country, instead of erroneous ones, will hardly be disputed; no books of geography but speak generally of soil, climate, product, rental, population, &c. but they are too often mere guesses; or, if founded at all, the facts that support them of too old a date to yield the least truth at present in points subject to change. When one country is mentioned in another it is usually in general terms: and by comparison, *England has not so rich a soil as Ireland. Products in England larger than in France. Rents higher in Ireland than in Scotland.* A thousand instances might be produced, in which ideas of this sort are particularized, and in which general errors are often found the cause of political measures, even of the highest consequence. That my english tours give *exact* information relative to England I cannot assert; but I may venture to say, that they are the only information extant, relative to the rental, produce, stock of that country, which are taken from an actual examination: I wish to offer equal information relative to our sister island; and I am encouraged to do it, not only from my own ideas, but the opinions of many persons with whom I have either corresponded or conversed from most parts of Europe, including some of the most respectable for abilities and rank.

S E C T I O N I.

Extent of Ireland.

IN order to know the consequence and relative importance of any country, it is necessary to be acquainted with its extent; I have reason to believe that that of Ireland is not accurately known. I insert the following table of the acres of each county, plantation measure, because there are several observations to be made on it.

A

Ulster

fertility, acre for acre over the two kingdoms is certainly in favour of Ireland; of this I believe there can scarcely be a doubt entertained, when it is considered that some of the more beautiful, and even best cultivated countries in England, owe almost every thing to the capital art and industry of the inhabitants.

The circumstance which strikes me as the greatest singularity of Ireland, is the rockyness of the soil, which should seem at first sight against that degree of fertility; but the contrary is the fact. Stone is so general, that I have great reason to believe the whole island is one vast rock of different strata and kinds rising out of the sea. I have rarely heard of any great depths being sunk without meeting with it. In general it appears on the surface in every part of the kingdom, the flattest and most fertile parts, as Limerick, Tipperary and Meath, have it at no great depth, almost as much as the more barren ones. May we not recognize in this the hand of bounteous providence, which has given, perhaps, the most stoney soil in Europe to the moistest climate in it? If as much rain fell upon the clays of England (a soil very rarely met with in Ireland, and never without much stone) as falls upon the rocks of her sister island, those lands could not be cultivated. But the rocks here are clothed with verdure;—those of lime stone with only a thin covering of mold, have the softest and most beautiful turf imaginable.

Of the great advantages resulting from the general plenty of lime stone, and limestone gravel, and the nature of the bogs, I shall have occasion to speak more particularly hereafter.

The rockyness of the soil in Ireland is so universal, that it predominates in every sort. One cannot use with propriety, the terms clay, loam, sand, &c. it must be a *stoney* clay, a *stoney* loam, a *gravelly* sand. Clay, especially the yellow, is much talked of in Ireland, but it is for want of proper discrimination. I have once or twice seen almost a pure clay upon the surface, but it is extremely rare. The true yellow clay, is usually found in a thin stratum under the surface mould, and over a rock; harsh, tenacious, stoney, strong loams, difficult to work, are not uncommon; but they are quite different from english clays.

Friable sandy loams dry, but fertile, are very common, and they form the best soils in the kingdom, for tillage and sheep. Tipperary, and Roscommon, abound particularly in them. The most fertile of all, are the bullock pastures of Limerick, and the banks of the Shannon in Clare, called the *Corcaffes*. These are a mellow, putrid, friable loam.

Sand, which is so common in England, and yet more common through Spain, France, Germany, and Poland, quite from Gibraltar to Petersburg, is no where met with in Ireland, except for narrow slips of hillocks, upon the sea coast. Nor did I ever meet with, or hear of a chalky soil.

The bogs of which foreigners have heard so much, are very extensive in Ireland; that of Allen extends 80 miles, and is computed to contain 300,000 acres. There are others also, very extensive, and smaller ones scattered over the whole kingdom; but these are not in general more than are wanted for fuel. When I come to speak of the improvement of waste lands, I shall describe them particularly.

Besides the great fertility of the soil, there are other circumstances, which come within my sphere to mention. Few countries can be better watered, by large and beautiful rivers; and it is remarkable, that by much the finest parts of the kingdom, are on the banks of these rivers. Witness the Suir, Blackwater, the Liffy, the Boyne, the Nore, the Barrow, and part of the Shannon, they wash a scenery that can hardly be exceeded. From the rockyness of the country however, there are few of them that have not obstructions, which are great impediments to inland navigation.

The mountains of Ireland, give to travelling, that interesting variety, which a flat country can never abound with. And at the same time, they are not in such number as to confer the usual character of poverty, which attends them. I was either upon or very near the most considerable in the kingdom. Mangerton, and the Reeks, in Kerry; the Galties in Corke; those of Mourne in Down; Crow Patrick, and Nephin in Mayo, these are the principal in Ireland, and they are of a character, in height and sublimity, which should render them the objects of every traveller's attention.

Relative to the climate of Ireland, a short residence cannot enable a man to speak much from his own experience; the observations I have made myself, confirm the idea of its being

vastly wetter than England; from the 20th of June, to the 20th of October, I kept a register, and there were in 122 days, 75 of rain, and very many of them incessant and heavy. I have examined similar registers I kept in England, and can find no year that even approaches to such a moisture as this. But there is the register of an accurate diary published, which compares London and Corke. The result is, that the quantity at the latter place, was double to that at London. See *Smith's Hist. of Corke*.

From the information I received, I have reason to believe, that the rainy season sets in usually about the first of July, and continues very wet till September or October, when there is usually a dry fine season of a month or six weeks. I resided in the county of Corke, &c. from October till March, and found the winter much more soft and mild, than ever I experienced one in England. I was also a whole summer there (1778), and it is fair to mention, that it was as fine a one, as ever I knew in England, though by no means so hot. I think hardly so wet, as very many I have known in England. The tops of the Galty Mountains, exhibited the only snow we saw; and as to frosts, they were so slight and rare, that I believe myrtles, and yet tenderer plants, would have survived without any covering. But when I say that the winter was not remarkable for being wet, I do not mean that we had a dry atmosphere. The inches of rain which fell, in the winter I speak of, would not mark the moisture of the climate. As many inches will fall in a single tropical shower, as in a whole year in England. See *Mitchel's Present State of Great Britain, and North America*. But if the clouds presently disperse, and a bright sun shines, the air may soon be dry. The worst circumstance of the climate of Ireland, is the constant moisture without rain. Wet a piece of leather, and lay it in a room, where there is neither sun nor fire, and it will not in summer even, be dry in a month*. I have known gentlemen in Ireland deny their climate being moister than England;—but if they have eyes let them open them, and see the verdure that clothes their rocks, and compare it with ours in England—where rocky soils are of a rusted brown however sweet the food for sheep. Does not their island lye more exposed to the great Atlantic, and does not the west wind blow three fourths of a year? If there was another island yet more to the westward, would not the climate of Ireland be improved? Such persons speak equally against fact, reason, and philosophy. That the moisture of a climate does not depend on the quantity of rain that falls, but on the powers of aerial evaporation, Dr. Dobson has clearly proved. *Phil. Transf.* Vol. lxxvii. part i. p. 244.

SECTION III.

Rental.

NO country can ever be held in a just estimation when the rental of it is unknown. It is not the only circumstance which a political arithmetician should attend to, but it is a most important one. The value of a country is rarely the subject of a conversation without guesses at its rental being made, and comparisons between different ones. I contend for nothing more through this and the ensuing tables, than the superiority of actual information on the spot, drawn into one point of view, over any guesses whatever. I shall therefore proceed at once to lay it before the reader.

Places.	Rent per Acre.	Rent at Irish Acre.	Fall.	Year's purchase of land.	Leases, years or lives.
County of Dublin,				22	41 61 L.
Celbridge,	1 10 0			22	31 or L
Dollstown,	1 1 0		5 0		
Summerhill,	1 0 0			23	
Slaine Castle,	1 5 0			22½	31 or L

* I have had this happen myself with a pair of wet gloves.

The myriads of flies also which buz about ones ears, and are ready to go in shoals into ones mouth at every word—and those almost imperceptible flies called midges, which perfectly devour one in a wood, or near a river, prove the same thing.

Headfort,

R E N T A L.

5

Places.	Rent per acre.	Rent at irish acre.	Rise. s. d.	Fall. s. d.	Year's pur- chase land.	Leases, years or lives.
Headfort,	1 0 0				21	
Drucktown,	1 6 0					
Fore,	0 15 0					
Packenham Hall,	0 17 6			4 4	21	
Mullengar to Tullspace	1 0 0					
Charleville,	0 16 0			4 0	20	
Shaen Castle,	0 13 0			5 0	20	
Athy to Carlow,	0 18 0					
Kilfaine,	0 15 6			2 0	21	21 31
Rofs to Taghmon,	0 15 0					
Bargie and Forth,	1 2 9		a little		23½	
Wexford to Wells,	0 11 0					
Wells to Gowry,	0 17 0					
Courtown,	0 17 6		none		22½	31 L.
New Town M. Kennedy	2 0 0		8 0		19½	31 L.
Ditto Mountain,	0 8 0					
Kilrue,	1 2 0					
Hampton,	1 5 0				20	
Cullen,	1 0 0					
Ravensdale,	0 7 0					
Market-hill,	0 11 6	14 9				
Ardmagh,	0 10 0	13 0				
Ardmagh to Newry,	0 10 0	13 0				
To Dungannon,	0 11 0	14 0				
To Lurgan,	0 10 0	13 0				
Mahon,	0 13 6	17 4				
Down,	0 16 0	20 0				
To Belfast,	0 16 0	20 0				
Castle Hill,	0 15 0	9 0				
Ards,	0 10 6	13 6				
Lecale	1 0 0					
Redemon to Saintfield	0 10 6	13 6				
Belfast,	0 13 0	17 0				
Belfast to Antrim,	0 8 0	10 0				
Shanes Castle,	0 8 0	10 0			21	31 L.
Lesly Hill,	0 12 0	15 0	3 0		21	
Near Giants Caulway,	0 12 0	15 0				
Colrain,	0 10 6					
Newtown Limm.	0 10 0	13 0	1 6			
Clenleigh county,	0 17 6	21 6			25	L.
Mount Charles,	0 10 0				21½	
Castle Caldwell,	0 17 6		2 0		22	
Innisilling,	0 11 0					
Ditto,	0 15 0					
Florence Court,	0 10 0					
Farnham,	0 17 0		5 6		22	
Granard,	1 1 0					
Longford,	0 13 6		2 0		18½	
Strokestown,	1 5 0					
Elphin,	0 13 6					
Kingston,	0 17 6					
Mercra,	0 15 0				20	31 L.
Tyrera,	0 14 6					
Ditto,	0 18 0					
Tyrawley,	0 17 0					
Foxford to Castlebar,	0 12 0					
Castlebar,	0 17 6					

Wellport,

R E N T A L,

Places.	Rent per acre.	Rent at irish acre. s. d.	Fall. s. d.	Year's purchase land.	Leases, years or lives.
Westport,	0 8 0		1 0	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	21 31 L
Holymount,	0 13 6				
Moniva,	0 14 0			21	
Wood Lawn,	0 16 0				
Drumoland Corcaffes,	1 0 0			20	
Limerick,			8 0	20	
Ansgrove	0 15 0		2 6	20	31 L
Orrery,	1 10 0				
Fermoy,	0 13 0				
Duhallo,	0 7 0				
Condons and Clangib- bons,	0 15 0				
Barrymore,	0 7 0	11 0			
Barrets,	0 4 0	6 0			
Mushery,	0 4 0	6 0			
Kincllea,	0 14 0	22 0			
Kerrycurrity,	0 10 0	16 0			
Courcy's,	0 10 0	16 0			
Mallow,	0 12 0	19 0			31 L
Castle Martyr,				25	
Imokilly,	0 12 0	19 0			
Kilnatahton,	0 8 0	12 0			
Coolmore,	0 14 0	22 0			
Killarney,	0 8 0				
Castle Island to Tralee,	1 7 0				
Mahagree,	0 14 6			17	
Tarbat,	0 14 0				
Adair,	1 0 0				
Castle Oliver,	0 12 0		3 0		
100,000 acres in Lime- rick,	1 10 0				
20 miles sheepland Tip- perary,	1 2 6		4 6	20 19 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Ballycavan,	0 15 0				
Furness,	1 0 0				
Gloster,	0 15 0		3 0	25 20	31 L 31 L
Johnstown,	1 0 0				
Derry,	0 15 0				
Cullen,	1 10 0			20	31 L
Mitchels Town,	0 2 6			20	21
Average,		16 6		21	
Average per english acre,		10 3			

The first column of rent is either plantation measure, Cunningham, or english; and the second reduces the two last to plantation.

The Cunningham acre is reduced to the plantation measure as seven to nine, and the english as five to eight, which though not perfectly accurate is near it.

The

R E N T A L.

7

The following table contains the information I received relative to the general average rental of whole counties; and as there are several with more than one account, the medium of those different accounts is given in a separate column.

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Different minutes.</i>	<i>Average.</i>	<i>Reduced to plantation.</i>	<i>Total rental of the County.</i>
Dublin,		1 11 6	1 11 6	L. 194,959
Meath,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	1 5 0			
Ditto,	0 18 6			
	<hr/>	1 1 2	1 1 2	345,524
Westmeath,		0 7 0	0 7 0	87,480
King's County,	0 13 0			
Ditto,	0 12 6			
	<hr/>	0 12 9	0 12 9	164,161
Carlow,		0 15 0	0 15 0	87,675
Wexford,		0 15 0	0 15 0	236,547
Wicklow,		0 15 0	0 15 0	189,307
Louth,		1 1 0	1 1 0	116,739
Ardmagh,	0 8 0			
Ditto,	0 14 0			
	<hr/>	0 11 0	0 14 0	119,434
Down,	0 10 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
	<hr/>	0 10 0	0 12 10	221,154
Antrim,	0 5 6			
Ditto,	0 4 9			
	<hr/>	0 5 1½	0 6 6	124,481
Derry,	0 4 6			
Ditto,	0 4 0			
	<hr/>	0 4 3	0 5 6	69,164
Donnegal,	0 1 0			
Ditto,	0 1 0			
Ditto,	0 2 6			
	<hr/>	0 1 6	0 1 6	47,260
Fermanagh,		0 8 5	0 8 5	94,603
Cavan,	0 6 0			
Ditto,	0 7 6			
	<hr/>	0 6 9	0 6 9	92,745
Longford,		0 10 0	0 10 0	67,350
Leitrim,	0 4 0			
Ditto,	0 2 0			
Ditto,	0 1 4			
	<hr/>	0 2 5	0 2 5	24,990
Roscommon,	0 11 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
	<hr/>	0 10 6	0 10 6	170,294
Sligo,	0 12 6			
Ditto,	0 12 10			
Ditto,	0 10 10			
	<hr/>	0 12 0	0 12 0	144,930
Mayo,		0 8 0	0 8 0	289,856
Galway,		0 8 1	0 8 1	313,440
Clare,		0 5 0	0 5 0	107,046

R E N T A L.

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Different minutes.</i>	<i>Average.</i>	<i>Reduced to plantation.</i>	<i>Total rental of the County.</i>
Corke,	0 7 0			
Ditto,	0 3 1			
Ditto,	0 5 8			
Ditto,	0 5 4			
Ditto,	0 5 0			
	<hr/>	0 5 2	0 5 2	256,010
Kerry,	0 2 0			
Ditto,	0 2 11			
Ditto,	0 1 7			
Ditto,	0 4 10			
	<hr/>	0 2 10	0 2 10	90,226
Limerick,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 10 6			
	<hr/>	0 16 10	0 16 10	315,893
Tipperary,	0 16 3			
Ditto,	0 17 4			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 12 6			
	<hr/>	0 16 6	0 16 6	494,587
Waterford,	0 5 0			
Ditto,	0 6 10			
	<hr/>	0 5 11	0 5 11	76,622
Kildare,		0 14 6	0 14 6	165,727
Tyrone,	0 4 0			
Ditto,	0 7 0			
	<hr/>	0 5 6	0 5 6	106,472

Since the journey I have procured the information for the following :

Kilkenny,	0 16 0	0 16 0	230,119
Monnaghan,	0 11 0	0 11 0	93,549
Queen's,	0 13 0	0 13 0	154,968
Total,	—	—	<hr/> 5,293,312 <hr/>

11,042,642 plantation acres, giving the rent of 5,293,312 l. is at the rate of 9 s. 7 d. per acre. The average of all the minutes made it 16 s. 6 d. from hence there is reason to imagine, that the line travelled was better than the medium of the kingdom; or on the contrary, that the suppositions of the rents per county are *under* the truth, the real rent of the kingdom, if it could be ascertained, would probably be found rather to exceed than fall short of six millions. Especially as the rents upon which these particulars are drawn, were not those paid by the occupying tenant, but a general average of all tenures; whereas the object one would ascertain is the sum paid by the occupier, including consequently, not only the landlords rents, but the profit of the middle men.

But farther, as the computation that makes the total of 11,042,642 acres is professedly erroneous above a seventh, being drawn from geographic miles, there should be added above 700,000 l. to this rental on that account.

The difference of money and measure included 35 s. irish makes just 20 s. english. Suppose therefore the rental of Ireland 9 s. 7 d. per acre, it makes 5 s. 6 d. english.

If Ireland is 10 s. it would be 5 s. 9 d. english.

Suppose it 11 s. or the total of six millions, it is per english acre 6 s. 4 d.

It

It is a curious disquisition to compare the rent of land in different countries, and to mark the various circumstances to which the superiority may be attributed. The rental of England has been pretty accurately ascertained to be 13 s. an acre*. Poor rates in the same 1 s. 10½ d. in the pound, or 1 s. 2½ d. per acre. || The information I received in Ireland concerning the amount of the money raised for presentments throughout the kingdom, made the total 140,000 l. or 3 d. an acre.

						l.	s.	d.
Landlords rent of Ireland,	—	—	—	—	—	0	9	7
Roads,	—	—	—	—	—	0	0	3
						0	9	10
Rent of England,	—	—	—	—	—	0	13	0
Rates,	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	2½
						0	14	2½
Irish acre and money makes	—	—	—	—	—	0	9	10
Which for an english acre and english money is	—	—	—	—	—	0	5	7

Instead of which is 14 s. 2½ d. consequently the proportion between the rent of land in England and Ireland is nearly as two to five: in other words, that space of land which in Ireland lets for 2 s. would in England produce 5 s.

In this comparison the value of land in England appear to be so much greater than it is in Ireland, that several circumstances should be considered. The idea I found common in Ireland upon that matter was, that rents there were *higher* than in England; but the extreme absurdity of the notion arose from the difference of measure and money, the exact par being, as 20 to 35. As far as I can form a general idea of the soil of the two kingdoms, Ireland has much the advantage; and if I am accurate in this, surely a stronger argument cannot be used, to shew the immense importance of CAPITAL first in the hands of the landlords of a country, and then in that of the farmers. I have reason to believe that five pounds sterling per english acre, expended over all Ireland, which amounts to 88,341,136 l. would not more than build, fence, plant, drain, and improve that country to be upon a par in those respects with England. And farther, that if those 88 millions were so expended, it would take much above 20 millions more (or above 20 s. an acre) in the hands of the farmers in stock of husbandry, to put them on an equal footing with those of her sister kingdom; nor is this calculation so vague as it might at first sight appear, since the expences of improvements and stock are very easily estimated in both countries. This is the solution of that surprising inferiority in the rent of Ireland: the english farmer pays a rent for his land in the state he finds it, which includes, not only the natural fertility of the soil, but the immense expenditure which national wealth has in the progress of time poured into it; but the irishman finds nothing he can afford to pay a rent for, but what the bounty of God has given, unaided by either wealth or industry. The second point is of equal consequence—when the land is to be let, the rent

* Eastern Tour through England, Vol. iv. p. 229.

|| The average of the Eastern and Northern Tours which make a total of 1,926,666 l. By the returns laid before parliament it appeared to be actually 1,720,316 l. 14 s. 7 d.; but that return was incomplete, for there are very many parishes named, from which, through neglect, no returns were made. I may remark that this fact is a strong confirmation of the truth of the data upon which I formed these calculations, the above sum coming vastly nearer to the truth afterwards ascertained by parliament, than any other calculation or conjecture which ever found its way into print.

The roads of England are a very heavy article; I conjecture much heavier than in Ireland, but I have no data whereby to ascertain the amount.

it will bring must depend on the capability of the cultivators to make it productive, if they have but half the capital they ought to be possessed of, how is it possible they should be able to offer a rent proportioned to the rates of another country, in which a variety of causes have long directed a stream of abundant wealth into the purses of her farmers?

These facts call for one very obvious reflection, which will often recur in the progress of these papers: the consequences of it are felt in Ireland; but I am sorry to say, very ill understood in England: that portion of national wealth which is employed in the improvement of the lands of a state is the best employed for the general welfare of a country; while trade and manufactures, national funds, banking, &c. swallow up prodigious sums in England, but yield a profit of not above 5 to 10 per cent; the lands of Ireland are unimproved, upon which money would pay 15 to 20 per cent. exclusive of a variety of advantages which must strike the most superficial reader.—Hence the vast importance to *England* of the improvement of her Irish territory. It is an old observation, that the wealth of Ireland will always center in England; and the fact is true, though not in the way commonly asserted: No employment of 100 millions, not upon the actual soil of Britain, can ever pay her a tenth of the advantage which would result from Ireland being in the above respects upon that par which I have described with England. The more attentively this matter is considered, I am apt to think the more clearly this will appear; and that whenever old illiberal jealousies are worn out, which, thanks to the good sense of the age, are daily disappearing, we shall be fully convinced, that the benefit of Ireland is so intimately connected with the good of England, that we shall be as forward to give to that hitherto unhappy country, as she can be to receive, from the firm conviction, that whatever we thus sow will yield to us a most abundant harvest.

S E C T I O N IV.

Products.

THE products per acre were, in every place, an object of my enquiries. The following table will at one view shew what they are in most parts of the kingdom.

<i>Places.</i>	<i>Wheat, Barrels.</i>	<i>Barley, Barrels.</i>	<i>Oats, Barrels.</i>	<i>Bere, Barrels.</i>
Dublin,	8		16	
Celbridge,	7		14	
Dollstown,	7		13	13½
Summershill,	6		10	
Slaine,	7		16	
Headfort,	7		12	
Packenham,	7		10	15½
Tullamore,	5½		12½	16
Shaens Castle,	5½	13	11½	13
Near Athy,	8	15	17½	
Athy to Carlow,	5½			
Near Carlow,		14	12	
Kilfaine,	6	10	8	10
Bargie,		9	9	
Ditto,	8½	12		

Bargy

<i>Places.</i>	<i>Wheat, Barrels.</i>	<i>Barley, Barrels.</i>	<i>Oats, Barrels,</i>	<i>Bere, Barrels,</i>
Bargy and Forth,	15	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	
Wells,		6	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Courtown,	8	9	9	
M. Kennedy,	8		10	
Kilrue,	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Hampton,	7	11	10	
Louth,	6	15	15	
Mahon,	5		6	
Ards,	7			
Lecale,	7	10	12	
Shaena Castle,	6		8	
Newtown Limm.		9		
Innishoen,		8	7	
Clonleigh,		10	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Castle Caldwell,		10	12	
Belleisle,		12 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	
Florence Court,		8	12	
Farnham,	7	9	10	
Longford,		12	15	10
Strokestown,	6	9	10	
Ballymoat,	6 $\frac{1}{2}$		10	
Mercra,	6	14	10	
Tyrera,		13 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	
Ditto,		15	10	
Westport,			12	
Holymount,	6		9	9
Moniva,			8	
Woodlawn,	8	12	12	
Drumoland,	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	12	
Ansgrove,	7			
Mallow,	8		12	12
Dunkettle,	8 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Adair,	9		14	10
Castle Oliver,	12		15	
Tipperary,	12	15	14	27
Ballycanvan,	8	14	12	
Furnefs,	7		9	
Gloster,	6	16	13	17
Johnstown,	7		12	16
Derry,	8		11 $\frac{1}{2}$	15
Cullen,	10	20	18	20
Mitchel's Town,			11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Cunningham acre reduced.				
Mahon,	6 $\frac{1}{2}$		7 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Ards,	9			
Shaens Castle,	7 $\frac{3}{4}$		10	
English acre reduced.				
Mallow,	12		19	19
Dunkettle,	13			
Averages.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	14

These quantities per english acre are :

	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Bush.</i>	<i>Pecks.</i>
Wheat	2	2	3
Barley	3	4	3
Oats	3	4	3
Bere	4	3	0

The averages of the Farmer's Tour through the East of England were :

	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Bush.</i>	<i>Pecks.</i>
Wheat	3	0	0
Barley	4	0	0
Oats	4	6	0

Of the Six Months Tour through the North of England :

	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Bush.</i>	<i>Pecks.</i>
Wheat	3	0	0
Barley	4	0	0
Oats	4	4	0

The products upon the whole are much inferior to those of England, though not more so than I should have expected; not from inferiority of soil, but the extreme inferiority of management. They are not to be considered as points whereon to found a full comparison of the two countries; since a small crop of wheat in England, gained after beans, clover, &c. would be of much more importance than a larger one in Ireland by a fallow: And this remark extends to other crops.

Tillage in Ireland is very little understood. In the greatest corn counties, such as Louth, Kildare, Carlow and Kilkenny, where are to be seen many very fine crops of wheat, all is under the old system, exploded by good farmers in England, of sowing wheat upon a fallow, and succeeding it with as many crops of spring corn as the soil will bear. Where they do best by their land, it is only two of barley or oats before the fallow returns again, which is something worse than the open field management in England, of 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. oats; to which, while the fields are open and common, the farmers are by cruel necessity tied down. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin has increased tillage very considerably, but it has no where introduced any other system. And to this extreme bad management of adopting the exploded practice of a century ago, instead of turneps and clover, it is owing, that Ireland, with a soil, acre for acre, much better than England, has its products inferior.

But keeping cattle of every sort, is a business so much more adapted to the laziness of the farmer, that it is no wonder the tillage is so bad. It is every where left to the cottars, or to the very poorest of the farmers, who are all utterly unable to make those exertions, upon which alone a vigorous culture of the earth can be founded; and were it not for potatoes, which necessarily prepare for corn, there would not be half of what we see at present. While it is in such hands, no wonder tillage is reckoned so unprofitable; profit in all undertakings depends on capital, and is it any wonder that the profit should be small when the capital is nothing at all? Every man that has one gets into cattle, which will give him an idle, lazy, superintendence, instead of an active attentive one.

That the *system* of tillage has improved very little, much as it has been extended in the last fourteen years, there is great reason to believe, from the very small increase in the import

import of clover feed, which would have doubled and trebled, had tillage got into the train it ought. This the following table proves.

Import of Clover feed.

		Cwt.
In the year	1764	— 2990
	1765	— 2798
	1766	— 3654
	1767	— 1479
	1768	— 4476
	1769	— 2483
	1770	— 5563
Average of seven years,		— 3349
	1771	— 4083
	1772	— 2956
	1773	— 2820
	1774	— 3085
	1775	— 3910
	1776	— 4648
	1777	— 5988
Average of seven years *.		— 3927

S E C T I O N V.

Of the Tenantry of Ireland.

IT has been probably owing to the small value of land in Ireland before, and even through a considerable part of the present century, that landlords became so careless of the interests of posterity, as readily to grant their tenants leases for ever. It might also be partly owing to the unfortunate civil wars, and other intestine divisions, which for so long a space of time kept that unhappy country in a state rather of devastation than improvement. When a castle, or a fortified house, and a family strong enough for a garrison, were essentially necessary to the security of life and property among protestants, no man could occupy land unless he had substance for defence as well as cultivation; short, or even determinable tenures were not encouragement enough for settling in such a situation of warfare. To increase the force of an estate leases for ever were given of lands, which from their waste state were deemed of little value. The practice once become common, continued long after the motives which originally gave rise to it, and has not yet ceased entirely in any part of the kingdom. Hence, therefore, tenants holding large tracts of land under a lease for ever, and which have been relet to a variety of under-tenants, must in this enquiry be considered as landlords.

The obvious distinction to be applied is, that of the occupying and unoccupying tenantry: in other words, the real farmer, and the middle man. The very idea, as well as the practice, of permitting a tenant to relet at a profit rent, seems confined to the distant and unimproved parts of every empire. In the highly cultivated counties of England the practice has no existence, but there are traces of it in the extremities; in Scotland it has been very common; and I am informed that the same observation is partly

* Taken from the Records of imports and exports kept by order of the House of Commons. MS.

applicable to France. In proportion as any country becomes improved the practice necessarily wears out.

It is in Ireland a question greatly agitated, whether the system has or has not advantages, which may yet induce a landlord to continue in it. The friends to this mode of letting lands contend, that the extreme poverty of the lower classes renders them such an insecure tenantry, that no gentleman of fortune can depend on the least punctuality in the payment of rent from such people; and therefore to let a large farm to some intermediate person of substance, at a lower rent, in order that the profit may be his inducement and reward for becoming a collector from the immediate occupiers, and answerable for their punctuality, becomes necessary to any person who will not submit to the drudgery of such a minute attention. Also, that such a man will at least improve a spot around his own residence, whereas the mere cottar can do nothing. If the intermediate tenant is, or from the accumulation of several farms becomes, a man of property, the same argument is applicable to his reletting to another intermediate man, giving up a part of his profit to escape that trouble, which induced the landlord to begin this system, and at the same time accounts for the number of tenants, one under another, who have all a profit out of the rent of the occupying farmer. In the variety of conversations on this point, of which I have partook in Ireland, I never heard any other arguments that had the least foundation in the actual state of the country; for as to ingenious theories, which relate more to what might be, than to what is, little regard should be paid to them.

That a man of substance, whose rent is not only secure, but regularly paid, is in many respects a more eligible tenant than a poor cottar, or little farmer, cannot be disputed, if the landlord looks no farther than those circumstances the question is at an end, for the argument must be allowed to have its full weight even to victory. But there are many other considerations: I was particularly attentive to every class of tenants throughout the kingdom, and shall therefore describe these middle men, from whence their merit may be the more easily decided. Sometimes they are resident on a part of the land, but very often they are not. Dublin, Bath, London, and the country towns of Ireland, contain great numbers of them; the merit of this class is surely ascertained in a moment; there cannot be a shadow of a pretence for the intervention of a man, whose single concern with an estate is to deduct a portion from the rent of it. They are however sometimes resident on a part of the land they hire, where it is natural to suppose they would work some improvements; it is however very rarely the case. I have in different parts of the kingdom seen farms just fallen in after leases of three lives, of the duration of fifty, sixty, and even seventy years, in which the residence of the principal tenant was not to be distinguished from the cottared fields surrounding it. I was at first much surprized at this, but after repeated observation, I found these men very generally were the masters of packs of wretched hounds, with which they wasted their time and money, and it is a notorious fact, that they are the hardest drinkers in Ireland. Indeed the class of the small country gentlemen, chiefly consisting of these profit renters, seem at present to monopolize that drinking spirit, which was, not many years ago, the disgrace of the kingdom at large: this I conjecture to be the reason why those who might improve are so very far from doing it; but there are still greater objections to them.

Living upon the spot, surrounded by their little undertenants, they prove the most oppressive species of tyrant that ever lent assistance to the destruction of a country. They relet the land, at short tenures, to the occupiers of small farms; and often give no leases at all. Not satisfied with screwing up the rent to the uttermost farthing, they are rapacious and relentless in the collection of it. Many of them have defended themselves in conversation with me, upon the plea of taking their rents, partly in kind, when their undertenants are much distressed: "What," say they, "would the head landlord, suppose him
"a great nobleman, do with a miserable cottar, who, disappointed in the sale of a heifer,
"a few barrels of corn, or firkins of butter, brings his five instead of his ten guineas?
"But we can favour him by taking his commodities at a fair price, and wait for reimbursement until the market rises. Can my lord do that?" A very common plea, but the most unfortunate that could be used to any one whoever remarked that portion of human
nature

nature which takes the garb of an Irish land jobber! For upon what issue does this remark place the question? Does it not acknowledge, that calling for their rents, when they cannot be paid in cash, they take the substance of the debtor at the very moment when he cannot sell it to another? Can it be necessary to ask what the price is? It is at the option of the creditor; and the miserable culprit meets his oppression, perhaps his ruin in the very action that is trumpeted as a favour to him. It may seem harsh to attribute a want of feeling to any class of men; but let not the reader misapprehend me; it is the *situation*, not the *man*, that I condemn. An injudicious system places a great number of persons, not of any liberal rank in life, in a state abounding with a variety of opportunities of oppression, every act of which is profitable to themselves. I am afraid it is human nature for men to fail in such posts; and I appeal to the experience of mankind, in other lines of life, whether it is ever found advantageous to a poor debtor to sell his products, or wares, to his richer creditor, at the moment of demand.

But farther; the dependance of the occupier on the resident middle man goes to other circumstances, personal service of themselves, their cars and horses, is exacted for leading turf, hay, corn, gravel, &c. insomuch that the poor undertenants often lose their own crops and turf, from being obliged to obey these calls of their superiors. Nay, I have even heard these jobbers gravely assert, that without undertenants to furnish cars and teams at half or two thirds the common price of the country, they could carry on no improvements at all; yet taking a merit to themselves for works wrought out of the sweat and ruin of a pack of wretches, assigned to their plunder by the inhumanity of the landholders.

In a word, the case is reducible to a short compass; intermediate tenants work no improvements; if non-resident they *cannot*, and if resident they *do not*; but they oppress the occupiers, and render them as incapable as they are themselves unwilling. The kingdom is an aggregate proof of these facts; for if long leases, at low rents, and profit incomes given, would have improved it, Ireland had long ago been a garden. It remains to enquire, whether the landlord's security is a full recompence for so much mischief.

But here it is proper to observe, that though the intermediate man is generally better security than the little occupier; yet it is not from thence to be concluded, as I have often heard it, that the latter is beyond all comparison beneath him in this respect: the contrary is often the case; and I have known the fact, that the landlord, disappointed of his rent, has *drove* (distrainted) the undertenants for it at a time when they had actually paid it to the middle man. If the profit rent is spent, as it very generally is in claret and hounds, the notion of good security will prove visionary, as many a landlord in Ireland has found it: several very considerable ones have assured me, that the little occupiers were the *best* pay they had on their estates; and the intermediate *gentlemen* tenants by much the *worst*.

By the minutes of the journey it appears, that a very considerable part of the kingdom, and the most enlightened landlords in it, have discarded this injurious system, and let their farms to none but the occupying tenantry; their experience has proved, that the apprehension of a want of security was merely ideal, finding their rents much better paid than ever. At the last extremity, it is the occupier's stock which is the real security of the landlord. It is that he distrains, and finds abundantly more valuable than the laced hat, hounds and pistols of the gentleman jobber, from whom he is more likely in such a case to receive a *message*, than a remittance.

And here let me observe, that a defence of intermediate tenants has been founded upon the circumstance of lessening the remittance of absentee rents; the profit of the middle man was spent in Ireland, whereas upon his dismissal the whole is remitted to England. I admit this to be an evil, but it appears to be in no degree proportioned to the mischiefs I have dwelt on. It is always to be remembered, that in the arrangement of landed property, the *produce* is the great object; the system of letting, which encourages most the occupying tenant, will always be the most advantageous to the community. I think I have proved that the middle man oppresses the cottar incomparably more than the principal landlord; to the one he is usually tenant at will, or at least under short terms, but under the other has the most advantageous tenure. This single point, that the person most favoured is in one instance an idle burthen, and in the other the industrious occupier, sufficiently decides the superiority. To look there-
fore

fore at the rent, after it is paid, is to put the question on a wrong issue; the payment of that rent, by means of ample products, arising from animated industry, is the only point deserving attention; and I had rather the whole of it should go to the antipodes, than exact it in a manner that shall cramp that industry, and lessen those products.

When therefore it is considered, that no advantages to the estate can arise from a non-resident tenant, and that a resident intermediate one improves no more than the poor occupiers who are prevented by his oppressions, that the landlord often gains little or nothing in security from employing them, but that he suffers a prodigious deduction in his rental for mere expectations, which every hour's experience proves to be delusive. When these facts are duly weighed, it is presumed, that the gentlemen in those parts of the kingdom, which yet groans under such a system of absurdity, folly and oppression, will follow the example set by such a variety of intelligent landlords, and be deaf to the deceitful asseverations with which their ears are assailed, to treat the anecdotes retailed of the cottar's poverty, with the contempt they deserve, when coming from the mouth of a jobber; when these bloodsuckers of the poor tenantry boast of their own improvements, to open their eyes and view the ruins which are dignified by such a term, and finally determine, as friends to themselves, to their posterity and their country, TO LET THEIR ESTATES TO NONE BUT THE OCCUPYING TENANTRY.

Having thus described the tenants that ought to be rejected, let me next mention the circumstances of the occupiers. The variety of these is very great in Ireland. In the North, where the linen manufacture has spread, the farms are so small, that ten acres in the occupation of one person is a large one, five or six will be found a good farm, and all the agriculture of the country so entirely subservient to the manufacture, that they no more deserve the name of farmers than the occupier of a mere cabbage garden. In Limerick, Tipperary, Clare, Meath and Waterford, there are to be found the greatest graziers and cow-keepers perhaps in the world, some who rent and occupy from 3000l. to 10,000l. a year: these of course are men of property, and are the only occupiers in the kingdom, who have any considerable substance. The effects are not so beneficial as might be expected. Rich graziers in England, who have a little tillage, usually manage it well, and are in other respects attentive to various improvements, though it must be confessed not in the same proportion with great arable farmers; but in Ireland these men are as errant slovens as the most beggarly cottars. The rich lands of Limerick are in respect of fences, drains, buildings, weeds, &c. in as waste a state as the mountains of Kerry; the fertility of nature is so little seconded, that few tracts yield less pleasure to the spectator. From what I observed, I attributed this to the idleness and dissipation so general in Ireland. These graziers are too apt to attend to their claret as much as their bullocks, live expensively, and being enabled, from the nature of their business, to pass nine tenths of the year without any exertion of industry, contract such a habit of ease, that works of improvement would be mortifying to their sloth.

In the arable counties of Louth, part of Meath, Kildare, Kilkenny, Carlow, Queen's, and part of King's, and Tipperary, they are much more industrious. It is the nature of tillage, to raise a more regular and animated attention to business; but the farms are too small, and the tenants too poor, to exhibit any appearances that can strike an english traveller. They have a great deal of corn, and many fine wheat crops; but being gained at the expence and loss of a fallow, as in the open fields of England, they do not suggest the ideas of profit to the individual, or advantage to the state, which worse crops in a well appointed rotation would do. Their manuring is trivial, their tackle and implements wretched, their teams weak, their profit small, and their living little better than that of the cottars they employ. These circumstances are the necessary result of the smallness of their capitals, which even in these tillage counties do not usually amount to a third of what an english farmer would have to manage the same extent of land. The leases of these men are usually three lives to protestants, and thirty-one years to catholics.

The tenantry in the more unimproved parts, such as Corke, Wicklow, Longford, and all the mountainous counties, where it is part tillage, and part pasturage, are generally in a very backward state. Their capitals are smaller than the class I just mentioned, and among them.

them is chiefly found the practice of many poor cottars hiring large farms in partnership. They make their rents by a little butter, a little wool, a little corn, and a few young cattle and lambs. Their lands at extreme low rents, are the most unimproved, (mountain and bog excepted,) in the kingdom. They have, however, more industry than capital; and with a very little management, might be brought greatly to improve their husbandry. I think they hold more generally from intermediate tenants than any other set; one reason why the land they occupy is in so waste a state. In the mountainous tracts, I saw instances of greater industry than in any other part of Ireland. Little occupiers, who can get leases of a mountain side, make exertions in improvement, which, though far enough from being complete, or accurate, yet prove clearly what great effects encouragement would have among them.

In the King's county, and also in some other parts, I saw many tracts of land, not large enough to be relet, which were occupied under leases for ever, very well planted and improved by men of substance and industry.

The poverty, common among the small occupying tenantry, may be pretty well ascertained from their general conduct in hiring a farm. They will manage to take one with a sum surprizingly small; they provide labour, which in England is so considerable an article, by assigning portions of land to cottars for their potatoe gardens, and keeping one or two cows for each of them. To lessen the live stock necessary, they will, whenever the neighbourhood enables them, take in the cattle at so much per month, or season, of any person that is deficient in pasturage at home, or of any labourers that have no land. Next, they will let out some old lay for grafs potatoes to such labourers; and if they are in a county where corn acres are known, they will do the same with some corn land. If there is any meadow on their farm, they will sell a part of it as the hay grows. By all these means the necessity of a full stock is very much lessened, and by means of living themselves in the very poorest manner, and converting every pig, fowl, and even egg into cash, they will make up their rent, and get by very slow degrees into somewhat better circumstances. Where it is the custom to take in partnership, the difficulties are easier got over, for one man brings a few sheep, another a cow, a third a horse, a fourth a car and some feed potatoes, a fifth a few barrels of corn, and so on, until the farm among them is tolerably stocked, and hands upon it in plenty for the labour.

But it is from the whole evident, that they are uncommon masters of the art of overcoming difficulties by patience and contrivance. Travellers, who take a superficial view of them are apt to think their poverty and wretchedness, viewed in the light of farmers, greater than they are. Perhaps there is an impropriety in considering a man merely as the occupier of such a quantity of land; and that instead of the land, his capital should be the object of contemplation. Give the farmer of twenty acres in England no more capital than his brother in Ireland, and I will venture to say he will be much poorer, for he would be utterly unable to go on at all.

I shall conclude what I have to say upon this subject, with stating, in few words, what I think would prove a very advantageous conduct in landlords towards the poor tenantry of the kingdom, and I shall do this with the greater readiness, as I speak not only as a passing traveller, but from a year's residence among several hundred tenants, whose circumstances and situation I had particular opportunities of observing.

Let me remark, that the power and influence of a resident landlord is so great in Ireland, that whatever system he adopts, be it well or ill imagined, he is much more able to introduce and accomplish it than englishmen can well have an idea of; consequently, one may suppose him to determine more authoritatively than a person in a similar situation in this kingdom could do. The first object, is a settled determination never to be departed from, to let his farms only to the immediate occupier of the land, and to avoid deceit not to allow a cottar, herdsman, or steward, to have more than three or four acres on any of his farms. By no means to reject the little occupier of a few acres from being a tenant to himself, rather than annex his land to a larger spot. Having, by this previous step, eased these inferior tenantry of the burthen of the intermediate man, let him give out, and steadily adhere to it, that he shall insist on the regular and punctual payment of his rent, but shall take no personal service whatever. The meanest occupier to have a lease, and none shorter than twenty-one years, which I am inclined also to believe is long enough for his advantage. There will arise, in spite of his tenderness, a
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necessity of securing a regular payment of rent: I would advise him to diffrain without favour or affection, at a certain period of deficiency. This will appear harsh only upon a superficial consideration. The object is to establish the system, but it will fall before it is on its legs, if founded on a landlord's forgiving arrears, or permitting them to encrease. He need not be apprehensive, since they, who can under disadvantages, pay the *jobber*, can certainly pay the *landlord* himself, when freed from those incumbrances. At all events, let him persist in this firmness, though it be the ruin of a few; for he must remember, that if he ruins five, he assuredly saves ten, he will, it is true, know the fall of a few, but many with an intermediate tenant might be destroyed without his knowing it. Such a steady regular conduct would infallibly have its effect, in animating all the tenantry of the estate to exert every nerve to be punctual; whereas favour shewn now and then would make every one, the least inclined to remissness, hope for its exertion towards himself, and every partial good would be attended with a diffusive evil; exceptions however to be made for very great and unavoidable misfortunes, clearly and undoubtedly proved. This stern administration on the one hand should be accompanied on the other with every species of encouragement to those, who shewed the least disposition to improve; premiums should be given, rewards adjudged, difficulties smoothed, and notice taken, in the most flattering manner, of those whose conduct merited it. I shall in another part of these papers point out, in detail, the advantageous systems; it is here only requisite to observe, that whatever novelties a landlord wishes to introduce, he should give seed gratis, and be at a part of the expence, promising to be at the whole loss, if he is well satisfied it is really incurred. From various observations I am convinced, that such a conduct would very rarely prove unsuccessful. The profit to a landlord would be immense; he would in the course of a lease find his tenantry paying a high rent, with greater ease to themselves, than they before yielded a low one.

A few considerable landlords, many years ago, made the experiment of fixing at great expence, colonies of palatines on their estates. Some of them I viewed, and made many enquiries. The scheme did not appear to me to answer. They had houses built for them; plots of land assigned to each at a rent of favour, assisted in stock, and all of them with leases for lives from the head landlord. The poor Irish are very rarely treated in this manner; when they are, they work much greater improvements than common among these Germans; witness Sir William Osborne's mountaineers! a few beneficial practices were introduced, but never travelled beyond their own farms; they were viewed with eyes too envious to allow them to be patterns, and it was human nature that it should be so: but encourage a few of your own poor, and if their practices thrive they will spread. I am convinced no country, whatever state it may be in, can be improved by colonies of foreigners, and whatever foreigner, as a superintendent of any great improvement, asks for colonies of his own countrymen to execute his ideas, manifests a mean genius and but little knowledge of the human heart; if he has talents he will find tools wherever he finds men, and make the natives of the country the means of encreasing their own happiness. Whatever he does then, will live and take root; but if effected by foreign hands, it will prove a sickly and short lived exotic; brilliant perhaps, for a time, in the eyes of the ignorant, but of no solid advantage to the country that employs him.

S E C T I O N VI.

Of the Labouring Poor.

SUCH is the weight of the lower classes in the great scale of national importance, that a traveller can never give too much attention to every circumstance that concerns them; their welfare forms the broad basis of public prosperity; it is they that feed, cloath, enrich, and fight the battles of all the other ranks of a community; it is their being able to support these various burthens without oppression, which constitutes the general felicity; in proportion

portion to their ease is the strength and wealth of nations, as public debility will be the certain attendant on their misery. Convinced that to be ignorant of their state and situation, in different countries, is to be deficient in the first rudiments of political knowledge, I have upon every occasion, made the necessary enquiries, to get the best information circumstances would allow me. What passes daily, and even hourly, before our eyes, we are very apt entirely to overlook; hence the surprizing inattention of various people to the food, cloathing, possessions and state of the poor, even in their own neighbourhood; many a question have I put to gentlemen upon these points, which were not answered without having recourse to the next cabbin; a source of information the more necessary, as I found upon various occasions, that some gentlemen in Ireland are infected with the rage of adopting *systems* as well as those of England: with one party the poor are all starving, with the other they are deemed in a very tolerable situation, and a third, who look with an evil eye on the administration of the british government, are fond of exclaiming at poverty and rags, as proofs of the cruel treatment of Ireland. When truth is likely to be thus warped, a traveller must be very circumspect to *believe*, and very assiduous to *see*.

<i>Places.</i>	<i>Rent of cabbin and garden.</i>	<i>Cow's grafs rent.</i>	<i>Cows per family.</i>
Dublin,	1 8 0		1 or 2
Celbridge,	2 0 0		
Dollesstown,	2 0 0		
Summerhill,			
Slaine,	2 0 0	2 0 0	
Packenham,	1 10 0		1
Tullamore,	2 0 0		
Shaen Castle,	1 5 0	1 5 0	
Ballynakill,	1 0 0	1 10 0	
Kilfaine,	3 3 0		
Bargy and Forth,	3 0 0		1
Mount Kennedy,	2 10 0		1
Kilrue,	1 10 0	1 10 0	2
Hampton,	2 10 0	1 10 0	
Warrenstown,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Lecale,	2 2 0		
Castle Caldwell,	1 0 0	1 10 0	
Longford,	1 10 0	1 10 0	all
Strokestown,	1 0 0	1 2 0	
Mercra,	1 0 0	1 10 0	
Moniva,	1 10 0		
Woodlawn,			
Limerick,	1 0 0		3
Mallow,	1 10 0	2 2 0	
Dunkettle,	1 12 6		
Coolmore,	1 0 0		
Nedeen,	1 2 9	2 0 0	
Adair,	2 5 6		all
Castle Oliver,	2 0 0	2 2 6	
Tipperary,	3 0 0	2 2 0	
Ballycanvan,	1 10 0	1 7 0	
Gloster,	1 10 0	1 5 0	
Johnstown,	1 0 0	1 0 0	
Derry,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Mitchel's Town.	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Average.	1 13 10	1 11 3	

From

From the minutes of the journey it will be found, that there is no determinate quantity of land for the potatoe garden; it is usually an acre; sometimes half an acre, and sometimes one acre and an half; but according to the soil, that quantity which is understood (right or wrong) to be necessary, is called the garden. The grafs for a cow is for the green food only, the cottar himself finds or buys hay. From the blanks in the number of cows it is not to be implied that they have none, but that the information was not received.

But it is necessary here to explain the common cottar system of labour in Ireland, which much resembles that of Scotland until very lately, and which was probably the same all over Europe before arts and commerce changed the face of it. If there are cabbins on a farm they are the residence of the cottars, if there are none the farmer marks out the potatoe gardens, and the labourers, who apply to him on his hiring the land, raise their own cabbins on such spots; in some places the farmer builds; in others he only assists them with the roof, &c. a verbal compact is then made, that the new cottar shall have his potatoe garden at such a rent, and one or two cows kept him at the price of the neighbourhood, he finding the cows. He then works with the farmer at the rate of the place, usually sixpence halfpenny a day a tally being kept (half by each party) and a notch cut for every day's labour: at the end of six months, or a year, they reckon, and the balance is paid. The cottar works for himself as his potatoes require.

The rates of £ 1 13 10
And, 1 11 3

Forming together 3 5 1

for milk and potatoes appear to be very reasonable; if two cows are kept, it is only 4l. 16s. 4d. from whence it is evident, as far merely as this charge goes, there is no oppression upon them which can ever amount to starving. In particular instances, where there is much inhumanity in the greater tenants, they are made to pay too high a rent for their gardens; and though the price, at which their cows are supported, may not appear high, yet they may be so poorly kept as to make it very unreasonable. I believe, from what I saw, that such instances are not uncommon.

Places.	P O T A T O E S.					
	Expence per acre.	Product Barrels.	Price per Barrel.	Produce Value.	Prime cost.	Rent potatoe ground.
Dublin,		65				
Celbridge,		100	5 0			8 0 0
Dollesstown,	15 15 0	60		15 15 0	5 0	5 12 6
Summerhill,		80				6 3 0
Slaine Castle,	12 4 0	64	3 6	11 4 0	4 0	4 10 0
Headfort,		85				4 10 0
Packenham,	10 10 0	80			2 6	5 0 0
Mullengar to Tullespace		60				6 0 0
Tullamore,						
General Walth,		176				
Near Athy,	8 14 2	80	3 4	13 7 0	2 2	
Ballynakill,	10 16 0	60	4 6		3 6	
Kilfaine,	5 4 0	40				
Prospect,		80	5 0			
Ardmagh,		45				
Warrentown,		40				
Shaen Castle,		87				
Lesly Hill,	7 7 0	80	4 0	16 0 0	1 10	
North of ditto,	8 5 6	75	4 0	15 0 0	2 0 ½	
Newton Limavaddy,				10 0 0		

Florence

Places.	P O T A T O E S.					
	Expence per acre.	Product Barrels.	Price per acre.	Produce value.	Prime cost.	Rent potatoe ground.
Florence court,	7 7 5			12 16 0		
Farnham,	13 0 4	60	7 6	22 10 0	4 4	
Longford,		120	8 0			
Strokestown,		50	8 0	20 0 0		5 5 0
Mercra,	7 4 4			7 10 0		5 0 0
Westport,	5 13 0			12 0 0		
Holymount,						3 15 0
Moniva,		50	4 0	10 0 0		
Woodlawn,		60	4 0	12 0 0		
Drumoland,		100				
Annfgrove,						1 17 6
Mallow,		42				
Dunkettle,		50				4 15 0
Castle Martyr,	6 4 0	70	3 0	10 10 0	1 9	
Coolmore,		50				
Adair,		60	8 0	24 0 0		6 16 6
Castle Oliver,	15 3 2	150	4 0	30 0 0	2 0	4 10 0
Tipperary,		90	5 0			6 0 0
Ballycanvan,		60				
Furness,	14 0 0	100	5 0	15 0 0	2 9	
Gloster,	11 5 2	100	3 4	16 13 4	2 3	6 8 0
Johnstown,	11 0 6	90	4 0	18 0 0	2 5	7 0 0
Derry,		35				4 5 0
Cullen,	10 11 8	120	3 0	18 0 0	1 2½	6 0 0
Mitchelstown,	6 0 7	60	4 4	13 0 0	2 0	
<i>Cunningham Acre reduced.</i>						
Ardmagh,		58				
Warrenstown,		51				
Shaen Castle,		112				
Lefly Hill,	9 9 0	103	4 0	20 11 0	1 10	
Ditto,	10 12 0	96	4 0	19 5 0	2 0½	
<i>English Acre reduced.</i>						
Mallow,		67				
Dunkettle,		80				
Castle Martyr,	9 18 0	112	3 0	16 16 0	1 9	7 12 0
Coolmore,		80				
Averages,	10 4 9	82	4 9	16 12 6	2 7½	5 10 2
Averages per english acre,	6 7 6	52	4 9	10 7 0	2 7½	3 8 6

These tables together will enable the reader to have a pretty accurate idea of the expences at which the poor in Ireland are fed. The first column is the total expence of an acre of potatoes, the third is the price at which potatoes are bought and sold, for feed, or food. The prime cost is the price formed by the first and second columns, being the rate at which they are eaten by those who raise them. The last column requires rather more explanation to those who were never in that country. There are a great many cabins, usually by the road side, or in the ditch, which have no potatoe gardens at all. Ireland being free from the curse

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of english poor laws, the people move about the country and settle where they will. A wandering family will fix themselves under a dry bank, and with a few sticks, furze, fern, &c. make up a hovel much worse than an english pigstie, support themselves how they can, by work, begging and stealing; if the neighbourhood wants hands, or takes no notice of them, the hovel grows into a cabin. In my rides about Mitchelstown, I have passed places in the road one day, without any appearance of a habitation, and next morning found a hovel, filled with a man and woman, six or eight children, and a pig. These people are not kept by any body as cottars, but are taken at busy seasons by the day or week, and paid in money, consequently having no potatoe garden, they are necessitated every year, to hire a spot of some neighbouring farmer, and of the preceding table, the last column, is the rent per acre paid for it. The cabins in little towns are in the same situation.

I think 5l. 10s. 2d. for liberty to plant a crop so beneficial to the land as potatoes, a very extravagant rent, and by no means upon a fair level with the other circumstances of the poor. The prime cost of two shillings and seven pence halfpenny per barrel, generally of twenty stone, being equal to about eight pence the bushel of seventy pounds, is not a high price for the root, yet might it be much lower, if they gave up their lazy bad method of culture, and adopted that of the plough, for the average produce of three hundred twenty eight bushels, or eighty-two barrels per acre, compared with crops in England, is perfectly insignificant, yet to gain this miserable produce, much old lay, and nineteen twentieths of all the dung in the kingdom is employed. A total alteration in this point is therefore much to be wished.

Relative to the cottar system wherever it is found, it may be observed that the recompence for labour is *the means of living*. In England these are dispensed in money, but in Ireland in land or commodities. In the former country paying the poor with any thing but money has been found so oppressive, that various and repeated statutes have been made to prohibit it. Is it to be considered in the same light in Ireland? this is a question which involves many considerations. First let me remark that the two modes of payment prohibited in England but common in Ireland, are not exactly the same, though upon similar principles. In England it is the payment of manufacturing labourers in necessities, as bread, candles, soap, &c. In Ireland it is a quantity of land for the support of a labourer a year. The former it must strike every one, is more open to abuse, involving more complex accounts than the latter. The great question is, which system is most advantageous to the poor family, the payment to be in land for potatoes and milk, or in money supposing the payment to be fairly made: here lies the discussion.

On one hand the irish labourer in every circumstance which gives him any appearance of plenty, the possession of cattle is subjected to chances which must be heavy in proportion to his poverty; ill fed cattle, we know from the experience of english commons are very far from being so advantageous to a man as they at first seem; accidents happen without a resource to supply the loss, and leave the man much worse than him who being paid in money is independant of such events. But to reverse the medal, there appear advantages, and very great ones by being paid in land, he has plenty of articles of the utmost importance to the sustenance of a family, potatoes and milk. Generally speaking the irish poor have a fair belly full of potatoes, and they have milk the greatest part of the year. What I would particularly insist on here is the value of his labour being food not money; food not for himself only, but for his wife and children. An irishman loves whisky as well as an english man does strong beer; but he cannot go on saturday night to the whisky house, and drink out the week's support of himself, his wife and his children, not uncommon in the ale-house of the englishman. It may indeed be said that we should not argue against a mode of payment because it may be abused, which is very true, but we certainly may reason against that which carries in its very principles the seed of abuse. That the irishman's cow may be ill fed is admitted, but ill fed as it is, it is better than the no cow of the englishman; the children of the irish cabin are nourished with milk, which, small as the quantity may be, is far preferable to the beer or vile tea which is the beverage of the english infant, for nowhere but in a town is milk to be bought. Farther, in a country where bread, cheese or meat are the common food, it is consumed with great economy, and kept under lock and key where the children can have no resort; but the case with potatoes is different, they are in greater plenty, the

the children help themselves; they are scarce ever seen about a cabin without being in the act of eating them, it is their employment all day long. Another circumstance not to be forgotten, is the regularity of the supply. The crop of potatoes, and the milk of the cow is more regular in Ireland than the *price* at which the englishman buys his food. In England complaints rise even to riots when the rates of provisions are high; but in Ireland the poor have nothing to do with prices, they depend not on prices, but crops of a vegetable very regular in its produce. Attend the english labourer when he is in sickness, he must then have resort to his savings, but those will be nought among nine tenths of the poor of a country that have a legal dependance on the parish, which therefore is the best off, the englishman supported by the parish, or the irishman by his potatoe bed and cow?

Money I am ready enough to grant has many advantages, but they depend almost entirely on the prudence with which it is expended. They know little of the human mind who suppose that the poor man with his seven or eight shillings on a saturday night has not his temptations to be imprudent as well as his superior with as many hundreds or thousands a year. He has his alehouse, his brandy shop, and skittle ground, as much as the other his ball, opera or masquerade. Examine the state of the english poor, and see if facts do not co-incide here with theory; do we not see numbers of half starved, and half clothed families owing to the superfluities of ale and brandy, tea and sugar. An irishman cannot do this in any degree, he can neither drink whisky from his potatoes, nor milk it from his cow.

But after all that can be said on this subject, the custom of both countries is consistent with their respective circumstances and situations. When great wealth from immense branches of industry has brought on a rapid circulation, and much of what is commonly called luxury, the more simple mode of paying labour with land can scarcely hold. It does not, however, follow that the poor are in that respect better off, other advantages of a different kind attend the evils of such a situation, among which, perhaps, the employment of the wife and all the children, are the greatest. In such a country, also markets and shops will be established in every corner, where the poor may buy their necessaries without difficulty; but in Ireland there are neither one nor the other; the labourer there with his pay in his pocket would find nothing readily but whisky.

I have gone into this enquiry in order to satisfy the people of Ireland, that the mode there common of paying the labouring poor is consistent with the situation of the kingdom: whether it is good or bad, or better or worse than that of England, it is what will necessarily continue until a great increase of national wealth has introduced a more general circulation of money, they will then have the english mode with its defects as well as its advantages.

F O O D.

The food of the common irish, potatoes and milk, have been produced more than once as an instance of the extreme poverty of the country, but this I believe is an opinion embraced with more alacrity than reflection. I have heard it stigmatized as being unhealthy, and not sufficiently nourishing for the support of hard labour, but this opinion is very amazing in a country, many of whose poor people are as athletic in their form, as robust, and as capable of enduring labour as any upon earth. The idleness seen among many when working for those who oppress them is a very contrast to the vigour and activity with which the same people work when themselves alone reap the benefit of their labour. To what country must we have recourse for a stronger instance than lime carried by little miserable mountaineers thirty miles on horses back to the foot of their hills, and up the steeps on their own. When I see the people of a country in spite of political oppression with well formed vigorous bodies, and their cottages swarming with children; when I see their men athletic, and their women beautiful, I know not how to believe them subsisting on an unwholesome food.

At the same time, however, that both reason and observation convince me of the justice of these remarks, I will candidly allow that I have seen such an excess in the laziness of great numbers, even when working for themselves, and such an apparent weakness in their exertions when encouraged to work, that I have had my doubts of the heartiness of their food. But here arise fresh difficulties, were their food ever so nourishing I can easily conceive an habitual inactivity of exertion would give them an air of debility compared with a
more

more industrious people. Though my residence in Ireland was not long enough to become a perfect master of the question, yet I have employed from twenty to fifty men for several months, and found their habitual laziness or weakness so great, whether working by measure or by day, that I am absolutely convinced 1s. 6d. and even 2s. a day in Suffolk or Hertfordshire much cheaper than sixpence halfpenny at Mitchelstown: It would not be fair to consider this as a representation of the kingdom, that place being remarkably backward in every species of industry and improvement; but I am afraid this observation would hold true in a less degree for the whole. But is this owing to habit or food? Granting their food to be the cause, it decides very little against potatoes, unless they were tried with good nourishing beer instead of their vile potatoes of whisky. When they are encouraged, or animate themselves to work hard, it is all by whisky, which though it has a notable effect in giving a perpetual motion to their tongues, can have but little of that invigorating substance which is found in strong beer or porter, probably it has an effect as pernicious, as the other is beneficial. One circumstance I should mention, which seems to confirm this, I have known the Irish reapers in Hertfordshire work as laboriously as any of our own men, and living upon potatoes which they procured from London, but drinking nothing but ale. If their bodies are weak I attribute it to whisky not potatoes; but it is still a question with me whether their miserable working arises from any such weakness, or from an habitual laziness. A friend of mine always refused Irishmen work in Surrey, saying his bailiff could do nothing but settle their quarrels.

But of this food there is one circumstance which must ever recommend it, they have a bellyfull, and that let me add is more than the superfluities of an Englishman leaves to his family: let any person examine minutely into the receipt and expenditure of an English cottage, and he will find that tea, sugar and strong liquors, can come only from pinched bellies. I will not assert that potatoes are a better food than bread and cheese; but I have no doubt of a bellyfull of the one being much better than half a bellyfull of the other; still less have I that the milk of the Irishman is incomparably better than the small beer, gin, or tea of the Englishman; and this even for the father, how much better must it be for the poor infants; milk to them is nourishment, is health, is life.

If any one doubts the comparative plenty, which attends the board of a poor native of England and Ireland, let him attend to their meals: the sparingness with which our labourer eats his bread and cheese is well known; mark the Irishman's potatoe bowl placed on the floor, the whole family upon their hams around it, devouring a quantity almost incredible, the beggar seating himself to it with a hearty welcome, the pig taking his share as readily as the wife, the cocks, hens, turkeys, geese, the cur, the cat, and perhaps the cow—and all partaking of the same dish. No man can often have been a witness of it without being convinced of the plenty, and I will add the cheerfulness, that attends it.

Is it, or is it not a matter of consequence, for the great body of the people of a country, to subsist upon that species of food which is produced in the greatest quantity by the smallest space of land? One need only to state, in order to answer the question. It certainly is an object of the highest consequence, what in this respect is the comparison between wheat or cheese, or meat and potatoes?

The minutes of the journey will enable us to shew this.

No. 1. At Shaen castle, Queen's county, a barrel of potatoes lasts a family of six persons a week.

No. 2. At Shaen castle, Antrim, six people eat three bushels, and twenty pounds of oatmeal besides, in a week, twenty pounds of meal are equal to one bushel of potatoes; this therefore is a barrel also.

No. 3. Leslie hill, a barrel of four bushels six persons a week.

No. 4. Near Giant's causeway, a barrel six people eight days.

No. 5. Castle Caldwell, a barrel of eighteen stone six people a week.

No. 6. Gloster, a barrel five persons a week.

No. 7. Derry, five persons eat and waste two barrels a week.

No. 8. Cullen, two barrels six persons a week.

Barrels.

No.		Barrels.		Persons.		Days.
1	—	1	—	6	—	7
2	—	1	—	6	—	7
3	—	1	—	6	—	7
4	—	1	—	6	—	8
5	—	1	—	6	—	7
6	—	1	—	5	—	7
7	—	2	—	5	—	7
8	—	2	—	6	—	7

A barrel is twenty stones, or two hundred and eighty pounds, which is the weight of four english bushels; the average of these accounts is nearly that quantity lasting a family of six people six days, which makes a year's food sixty barrels. Now the average produce of the whole kingdom being eighty-two barrels per acre, plantation measure, one acre does rather more than support eight persons the year through, which is five persons to the english acre. To feed on wheat those eight persons would require eight quarters, or two irish acres, which at present, imply two more for fallow, or four in all.

When, however, I speak of potatoes and buttermilk being the food of the poor, the tables already inserted shew, that in some parts of the north that root forms their diet but for a part of the year, much oatmeal and some meat being consumed. I need not dwell on this, as there is nothing particular to attend to in it, whereas potatoes, as the staple dependance, is a peculiarity met with in no country but the other parts of Ireland.

CLOATHING.

The common irish are in general clothed so very indifferently, that it impresses every stranger with a strong idea of universal poverty. Shoes and stockings are scarcely ever found on the feet of children of either sex; and great numbers of men and women are without them: a change however, in this respect as in most others, is coming in, for there are many more of them with those articles of cloathing now than ten years ago.

An irishman and his wife are much more solicitous to feed than to cloathe their children: whereas in England it is surprizing to see the expence they put themselves to, to deck out children whose principal subsistence is tea. Very many of them in Ireland are so ragged that their nakedness is scarcely covered; yet are they in health and active. As to the want of shoes and stockings I consider it as no evil, but a much more cleanly custom than the beastiality of stockings and feet that are washed no oftener than those of our own poor. Women are oftener without shoes than men; and by washing their cloaths no where but in rivers and streams, the cold, especially as they roast their legs in their cabbins till they are fire spotted, must swell them to a wonderful size and horrid black and blue colour always met with both in young and old. They stand in rivers and beat the linen against the great stones found there with a beetle.

I remarked generally, that they were not ill dressed of fundays and holidays, and that black or dark blue was almost the universal hue.

HABITATIONS.

The cottages of the irish, which are all called cabbins, are the most miserable looking hovels that can well be conceived: they generally consist of only one room: mud kneaded with straw is the common material of the walls; these are rarely above seven feet high, and not always above five or six; they are about two feet thick, and have only a door, which lets in light instead of a window, and should let the smoak out instead of a chimney, but they had rather keep it in: these two conveniencies they hold so cheap, that I have seen them both stopped up in stone cottages, built by improving landlords; the smoak warms them, but

but certainly is as injurious to their eyes as it is to the complexions of the women, which in general in the cabbins of Ireland has a near resemblance to that of a smoaked ham. The number of the blind poor I think greater there than in England, which is probably owing to this cause.

The roofs of the cabbins are rafters, raised from the tops of the mud walls, and the covering varies; some are thatched with straw, potatoe stalks, or with heath, others only covered with sods of turf cut from a grass field; and I have seen several that were partly composed of all three; the bad repair these roofs are kept in, a hole in the thatch being often mended with turf, and weeds sprouting from every part, gives them the appearance of a weedy dunghill, especially when the cabin is not built with regular walls, but supported on one, or perhaps on both sides by the banks of a broad dry ditch, the roof then seems a hillock, upon which perhaps the pig grazes. Some of these cabbins are much less and more miserable habitations than I had ever seen in England. I was told they were the worst in Connaught, but I found it an error; I saw many in Leinster to the full as bad, and in Wicklow, some worse than any in Connaught. When they are well roofed, and built not of stones, ill put together, but of mud, they are much warmer, independently of smoak, than the clay, or lath and mortar cottages of England, the walls of which are so thin, that a rat hole lets in the wind to the annoyance of the whole family. The furniture of the cabbins is as bad as the architecture; in very many, consisting only of a pot for boiling their potatoes, a bit of a table, and one or two broken stools; beds are not found universally, the family lying on straw, equally partook of by cows, calves and pigs, though the luxury of sties is coming in in Ireland, which excludes the poor pigs from the warmth of the bodies of their master and mistress: I remarked little hovels of earth thrown up near the cabbins, and in some places they build their turf stacks hollow, in order to afford shelter to the hogs. This is a general description, but the exceptions are very numerous. I have been in a multitude of cabbins that had much useful furniture, and some even superfluous; chairs, tables, boxes, chests of drawers, earthen ware, and in short most of the articles found in a middling english cottage; but upon enquiry, I very generally found that these acquisitions were all made within the last ten years, a sure sign of a rising national prosperity. I think the bad cabbins and furniture the greatest instances of irish poverty, and this must flow from the mode of payment for labour, which makes cattle so valuable to the peasant, that every farthing they can spare is saved for their purchase; from hence also results another observation, which is, that the apparent poverty of it is greater than the real; for the house of a man that is master of four or five cows, will have scarce any thing but deficiencies; nay, I was in the cabbins of dairymen and farmers, not small ones, whose cabbins were not at all better, or better furnished, than those of the poorest labourer: before, therefore, we can attribute it to absolute poverty, we must take into the account the customs and inclinations of the people. In England a man's cottage will be filled with superfluities before he possesses a cow: I think the comparison much in favour of the irishman; a hog is a much more valuable piece of goods than a set of tea things; and though his snout in a *crook* * of potatoes is an idea not so poetical as

——— *Broken tea cups, wisely kept for shew,
Rang'd o'er the chimney, glisten'd in a row.*

Yet will the cottar and his family, at christmas, find the solidity of it an ample recompence for the ornament of the other.

L I V E S T O C K.

In every part of the kingdom the common irish have all sorts of live stock: the tables already inserted shew this in respect of cows. I should add here that pigs are yet more general, and poultry in many parts of the kingdom, especially Leinster are in such

* The iron pot of an irish cabin,

quantities as amazed me, not only cocks and hens, but also geese and turkies; this is owing probably to three circumstances; first, to the plenty of potatoes with which they are fed; secondly, to the warmth of the cabins; and thirdly, to the great quantity of spontaneous white clover (*trifolium repens*) in almost all the fields, which much exceeds any thing we know in England; upon the seeds of this plant the young poultry rear themselves; much is sold, but a considerable portion eaten by the family, probably because they cannot find a market for the whole. Many of the cocks, hens, turkies and geese, have their legs tied together to prevent them from trespassing on the farmers grounds. Indeed all the live stock of the poor man in Ireland is in this sort of thralldom; the horses are all hopping about, the pigs have a rope of straw from around their necks to their hind legs. In the county of Down they have an ingenious contrivance for a sheep just to feed down the grafs of a ditch, a rope with a stake at each end, and the sheep tied to a ring, through which it passes, so that the animal can move from one end of the rope to the other, and eat whatever grows within two or three feet of it.

	PRICE OF LABOUR.				
Places:	Hay and harvest.	Winter.	Year round.	Rise in Labour.	
Dublin,		s. d.	10d.	Twopence in 30 years.	
Celbridge,			8		
Kilcock,	1 8	0 8			
Slaine,	1 2		7½	Threepence in 10 years.	
Headfort,	0 9	7			
Packenham	10	6	7½	None.	
Tullamore,	8	4	5	None.	
Shaen Castle,	10	6	7	Very little.	
Carlow,	1 1	7½		One fifth in 20 years.	
Kilfain,	10½	6	7	One fourth in 20 years.	
Taghmon,	1 3	1 0			
Forth,	1 0	0 9	6	A little in 20 years.	
Prospect,	10	5		Twopence in 20 years.	
Mount Kennedy,	10	8		One third in 20 years.	
Ballybriggan,			8½	One half in 20 years.	
Market-hill,	† 8	8	8	Near double in 20 years.	† And board.
Ardmagh,				One fourth in 20 years.	
Warrenstown,	11	8	8	A little.	
Portaferry,	10	8	7		
Shaen Castle,	9	8	8½	One third in 20 years.	
Lesly Hill,	1 2		9	Near double in 20 years.	
Limmavady,	1 0	8	9		
Innishoen,	7	6	6½	None.	
Clonleigh,	† 10		6	One third in 20 years.	
Mount Charles,	7	6		One penny in 20 years	
Castle Caldwell,	7	7	7		
Castle Cool,	† 0	7	7		
Belle Isle,	† 0	† 0	† 6		
Florence Court,	8	6	8	Twopence a day in 20 years	
Farnham,	1 0	6	6		
Strokestown,	† 6	6	6	None.	
Ballyna,	6	4	5	One sixth in 20 years.	
Mercra,	8	6	6		
Sortland,	8		5½		
Killala,	6	4½	5½		
Westport,	6	4	5	One third in 20 years.	
Moniva,	6	5		One sixth in 20 years.	

Drumolan

Places.	Hay and harvest.	Winter.	Year round.	Rise in Labour.	
	d.	d.	d.	None.	
Drumoland,	6	6	6		
Doneraile,	† 8	6½	6½	One third in 20 years.	† and board.
Castle Martyr,	8	6	6	One third in ditto.	
Nedeen,	6	6	6	One third in ditto.	
Tarbat,	6	6	6	One penny in ditto.	
Adair,	6	5		One third in ditto.	
Castle Oliver,	6	5	6	One penny a day in ditto.	
Tipperary,	6	5	6		
Curraghmore,	6	5			
Waterford,	6½	6½	6½		
Furness,	8	7		One penny a day.	
Gloster,			6	One third in 20 years.	
Johnstown,	8	6½	5	Considerable.	
Derry,	6½	5		None.	
Castle Loyd,			5½	One penny a day.	
Mitchel's Town,	6½	6½	6½	1½ d. a day in 5 years.	
Average,	8¾	6½	6½	1¼ in 20 years.	

The rise is very near a fourth in twenty years; and it is remarkable that, in my Eastern Tour through England (vol. 4. p. 338.) I found the rise of labour one fourth in eighteen years; from which it appears, that the two kingdoms, in this respect, have been nearly on a par.

Places.	Carpenter.	Mason.	Thatcher.	Places.	Carpenter.	Mason.	Thatcher.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Dublin,	2 3	2 0		Drumoland,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Lutrel's Town,	2 3	2 0		Donneraile,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Slaine,	2 0	2 0	1 6	Corke,	1 6	1 6	1 6
Packenham,	1 8	1 10		Nedeen,	1 4	1 4	1 0
Shaens Castle,	2 0	2 0		Tarbat,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Kilfain,	1 3	1 3		Castle Oliver,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Forth,	2 0	2 0	2 0	Tipperary,	1 6	1 6	1 6
Prospect,	2 0	2 0	1 0	Curraghmore,	1 9	1 9	0 10
Mount Kennedy,	2 3	2 0		Waterford,	2 0	2 0	0 6
Market Hill,	2 2	1 10		Furness,	2 0	2 0	1 6
Ardmagh,	2 2	2 0		Gloster,	1 6	1 8	
Shaen Castle,	1 9	2 0	3 6	Johnstown,	1 7½	1 7½	
Limavaddy,	2 0	2 0	2 0	Derry,	1 6	1 6	
Clonleigh,	2 0	2 0	5 1	Castle Loyd,	1 8	1 8	1 0
Mount Charles,	2 2	2 2	1 6	Mitchel's Town,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Castle Caldwell,	2 0	1 10	1 6				
Florence Court,	1 9	1 9	1 1	Average,	1 9	1 9	1 3
Farnham,	2 2	2 2	1 6				
Strokestown,	2 0	2 0	1 0				
Ballynogh,	1 4	1 10	1 0				
Mercra,	1 6	1 7	1 7½				
Sortland,		1 6					
Kilalla,	1 6	1 6	1 4				
Westport,	1 6	1 7	0 10				
Moniva,	1 7	1 7	1 4				

When it is considered that common labour in Ireland is but little more than a third of what it is in England, it may appear extraordinary that artizans are paid nearly, if not full, as high as in that kingdom.

OPPRES-

OPPRESSION.

Before I conclude this article of the common labouring poor in Ireland, I must observe, that their happiness depends not merely upon the payment of their labour, their cloaths, or their food; the subordination of the lower classes, degenerating into oppression, is not to be overlooked. The poor in all countries, and under all governments, are both paid and fed, yet is there an infinite difference between them in different ones. This enquiry will by no means turn out so favourable as the preceding articles. It must be very apparent to every traveller, through that country, that the labouring poor are treated with harshness, and are in all respects so little considered, that their want of importance seems a perfect contrast to their situation in England, of which country, comparatively speaking, they reign the sovereigns. The age has improved so much in humanity, that even the poor Irish have experienced its influence, and are every day treated better and better; but still the remnant of the old manners, the abominable distinction of religion, united with the oppressive conduct of the little country gentlemen, or rather vermin of the kingdom, who never were out of it, altogether bear still very heavy on the poor people, and subject them to situations more mortifying than we ever behold in England. The landlord of an Irish estate, inhabited by Roman Catholics, is a sort of despot who yields obedience in whatever concerns the poor, to no law but that of his will. To discover what the liberty of a people is, we must live among them, and not look for it in the statutes of the realm: the language of written law may be that of liberty, but the situation of the poor may speak no language but that of slavery; there is too much of this contradiction in Ireland; a long series of oppressions, aided by many very ill-judged laws, have brought landlords into a habit of exerting a very lofty superiority, and their vassals into that of an almost unlimited submission: speaking a language that is despised, professing a religion that is abhorred, and being disarmed, the poor find themselves in many cases slaves even in the bosom of *written* liberty. Landlords that have resided much abroad, are usually humane in their ideas, but the habit of tyranny naturally contracts the mind, so that even in this polished age, there are instances of a severe carriage towards the poor, which is quite unknown in England.

A landlord in Ireland can scarcely invent an order which a servant labourer or cottar dares to refuse to execute. Nothing satisfies him but an unlimited submission. Disrespect or any thing tending towards sauciness he may punish with his cane or his horsewhip with the most perfect security, a poor man would have his bones broke if he offered to lift his hand in his own defence. Knocking down is spoken of in the country in a manner that makes an Englishman stare. Landlords of consequence have assured me that many of their cottars would think themselves honoured by having their wives and daughters sent for to the bed of their master; a mark of slavery that proves the oppression under which such people must live. Nay, I have heard anecdotes of the lives of people being made free with without any apprehension of the justice of a jury. But let it not be imagined that this is common; formerly it happened every day; but law gains ground. It must strike the most careless traveller to see whole strings of cars whipt into a ditch by a gentleman's footman to make way for his carriage; if they are overturned or broken in pieces, no matter, it is taken in patience, were they to complain they would perhaps be horsewhipped. The execution of the laws lies very much in the hands of justices of the peace, many of whom are drawn from the most illiberal class in the kingdom. If a poor man lodges a complaint against a gentleman, or any animal that chuses to call itself a gentleman, and the justice issues out a summons for his appearance it is a fixed affront, and he will infallibly be *called out*. Where MANNERS are in conspiracy against LAW, to whom are the oppressed people to have recourse? It is a fact that a poor man having a contest with a gentleman must—but I am talking nonsense, they know their situation too well to think of it; they can have no defence but by means of protection from one gentleman against another, who probably protects his vassal as he would the sheep he intends to eat.

The colours of this picture are not charged. To assert that all these cases are common, would be an exaggeration, but to say that an unfeeling landlord will do all this with impunity is to keep strictly to truth: and what is liberty but a farce, and a jest if its blessings

are received as the favour of kindness and humanity, instead of being the inheritance of RIGHT?

Consequences have flowed from these oppressions which ought long ago to have put a stop to them. In England we have heard much of whiteboys, steelboys, oakboys, peep-of-day-boys, &c. But these various insurgents are not to be confounded, for they are very different. The proper distinction in the discontents of the people is into protestant and catholic. All but the whiteboys were among the manufacturing protestants in the north. The whiteboys catholic labourers in the south; from the best intelligence I could gain, the riots of the manufacturers had no other foundation, but such variations in the manufacture, as all fabrics experience, and which they had themselves known and submitted to before. The case, however, was different with the whiteboys; who being labouring catholics met with all those oppressions I have described, and would probably have continued in full submission had not very severe treatment in respect of tythes united with a great speculative rise of rents about the same time, blown up the flame of resistance; the atrocious acts they were guilty of made them the object of general indignation, acts were passed for their punishment which seemed calculated for the meridian of Barbary; this arose to such a height that by one they were to be hanged under certain circumstances without the common formalities of a trial, which though repealed the following sessions marks the spirit of punishment; while others remain yet the law of the land, that would if executed tend more to raise than quell an insurrection. From all which it is manifest that the gentlemen of Ireland never thought of a radical cure from overlooking the real cause of the disease, which in fact lay in themselves, and not in the wretches they doomed to the gallows. Let them change their own conduct entirely, and the poor will not long riot. Treat them like men who ought to be as free as yourselves: put an end to that system of religious persecution which for seventy years has divided the kingdom against itself; in these two circumstances lies the cure of insurrection, perform them completely, and you will have an affectionate poor, instead of oppressed and discontented vassals.

A better treatment of the poor in Ireland is a very material point to the welfare of the whole british empire. Events may happen which may convince us fatally of this truth—If not, oppression must have broken all the spirit and resentment of men. By what policy the government of England can for so many years have permitted such an absurd system to be matured in Ireland, is beyond the power of plain sense to discover.

E M I G R A T I O N S .

Before the american war broke out, the irish and scotch emigrations were a constant subject of conversation in England, and occasioned much discourse even in parliament. The common observation was, that if they were not stopped, those countries would be ruined, and they were generally attributed to a great rise of rents. Upon going over to Ireland I determined to omit no opportunities of discovering the cause and extent of this emigration, and my information, as may be seen in the minutes of the journey, was very regular. I have only a few general remarks to make on it here.

The spirit of emigrating in Ireland appeared to be confined to two circumstances, the presbyterian religion, and the linen manufacture. I heard of very few emigrants except among manufacturers of that persuasion. The catholics never went, they seem not only tied to the country but almost to the parish in which their ancestors lived. As to the emigration in the north, it was an error in England to suppose it a novelty which arose with the increase in rents. The contrary was the fact, it had subsisted, perhaps, forty years, inasmuch that at the ports of Belfast, Derry, &c. the *passenger trade* as they called it, had long been a regular branch of commerce, which employed several ships, and consisted in carrying people to America. The increasing population of the country made it an increasing trade, but when the linen trade was low, the *passenger trade* was always high. At the time of lord Donnegall's letting his estate in the north the linen business suffered a temporary decline, which sent great numbers to America, and gave rise to the error that it was occasioned by the increase of his rents:

rents: the fact, however, was otherwise, for great numbers of those who went from his lands actually sold those leases for considerable sums, the hardship of which was supposed to have driven them to America. Some emigration, therefore, always existed, and its increase depended on the fluctuations of linen; but as to the *effect* there was as much error in the conclusions drawn in England as before in the *cause*.

It is the misfortune of all manufactures worked for a foreign market to be upon an insecure footing, periods of declension will come, and when in consequence of them great numbers of people are out of employment, the best circumstance is their enlisting in the army or navy; and it is the common result; but unfortunately the manufacture in Ireland (of which I shall have occasion to speak more hereafter), is not confined as it ought to be to towns, but spreads into all the cabins of the country. Being half farmers, half manufacturers, they have too much property in cattle, &c. to enlist when idle; if they convert it into cash it will enable them to pay their passage to America, an alternative always chosen in preference to the military life. The consequence is, that they must live without work till their substance is quite consumed before they will enlist. Men who are in such a situation that from various causes they can not work, and won't enlist should emigrate, if they stay at home they must remain a burthen upon the community; emigration should not, therefore, be condemned in states so ill governed as to possess many people willing to work, but without employment.

SECTION VII.

Of Religion.

THE history of the two religions in Ireland is too generally known to require any detail introductory to the subject. The conflict for two centuries occasioned a scene of devastation and bloodshed, till at last by the arms of king William the decision left the uncontrouled power in the hands of the protestants. The landed property of the kingdom had been greatly changed in the period of the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. Still more under Cromwell, who parcelled out an immense proportion of the kingdom to the officers of his army, the ancestors of great numbers of the present possessors: the colonels of his regiments left estates which are now eight and ten thousand a year, and I know several gentlemen of two and three thousand pounds a year at present which they inherited from captains in the same service. The last forfeitures were incurred in that war which stripped and banished James II. Upon the whole nineteen twentieths of the kingdom changed hands from catholic to protestant. The lineal descendants of great families, once possessed of vast property, are now to be found all over the kingdom in the lowest situation, working as cottars for the great great grandsons of men, many of whom were of no greater account in England than these poor labourers are at present on that property which was once their own. So entire an overthrow, and change of landed possession, is within the period to be found in scarce any country in the world. In such great revolutions of property the ruined proprietors have usually been extirpated or banished; but in Ireland the case was otherwise: families were so numerous and so united in clans, that the heir of an estate was always known; and it is a fact that in most parts of the kingdom the descendants of the old land owners regularly transmit by testamentary deed the memorial of their right to those estates which once belonged to their families. From hence it results that the question of religion has always in Ireland been intimately connected with the right to and possession of the landed property of the kingdom; and has probably received from this source a degree of acrimony, not at all wanting to influence the superstitious prejudices of the human mind.

Flushed with success after the victory of the Boyne, and animated with the recollection of recent injuries, it would not have been surprizing if the triumphant party had exceeded the bounds

bounds of moderation towards the catholick, but the amazing circumstance is that the great category of persecuting laws was not framed during the life of that monarch who wisely was a friend to toleration : if ever such a system as would crush the minds of a conquered people into a slavish submission was necessary, it must have been under that new, and in many respects weak establishment, when the late conflict might have been an apparent justification : but why such a system should be embraced six or seven years after the death of king William is not so easy to be accounted for.

By the laws of discovery as they are called :

1. The whole body of roman catholicks are absolutely disarmed.
2. They are incapacitated from purchasing land.
3. The entails of their estates are broken, and they gavel among the children.
4. If one child abjures that religion he inherits the whole estate, though he is the youngest.
5. If the son abjures the religion the father has no power over his estate, but becomes a pensioner on it in favour of such son.
6. No catholick can take a lease for more than thirty one years.
7. If the rent of any catholick is less than two thirds of the full improved value, whoever discovers takes the benefit of the lease.
8. Priests who celebrate mass to be transported, and if they return to be hanged.
9. A catholick having a horse in his possession above the value of five pound, to forfeit the same to the discoverer.
10. By a construction of lord Hardwick's, they are incapacitated from lending money on mortgage.

The preceding catalogue is very imperfect, but here is an exhibition of oppression fully sufficient. The great national objects in framing laws against the profession and practice of any religion, may be reduced to three heads. 1st. The propagation of the dominant faith. 2d. Internal security. 3d. National prosperity : the fairest way to judge of the laws of Ireland will be to enquire how far they have answered any or all of these ends.

That it is a desirable object in some respects to have a people if not all of one persuasion, at least in good friendship and brotherhood, as to religion is undeniable. Though I think there are reasons against wishing a whole kingdom to profess only one similar faith. It excludes a variety of disquisitions which exercise and animate the talents of mankind ; it encourages the priests of the national religion to a relaxation of their studies, their activity and even their morals, and tends to introduce a lazy, wretched, vicious, and ignorant clergy : it is opposition and contrast that sharpen the wits of men.

But waving these objections, and considering the question only in a political view, I admit that such a similarity of worship as is followed by laws equal to the whole community to be an advantage, let us therefore examine whether the irish intollerant laws have had the effect or not.

That they have lessened the landed property in the hands of the catholicks is certain ; their violence could not have had any other effect, but not, however, to such a degree as might have been imagined. There are principles of honour, religion, and ties of blood too powerful for tyrannic laws to overcome, and which have prevented their full effect. I am not convinced that the conversion of the land owners while all the rabble retained their religion, was an advantage to the kingdom. Great possessions gave those landlords an interest in the public welfare ; which in emergencies of danger might induce them to use their influence to keep their dependants quiet ; but when none are connected with them richer than themselves, and the whole party consisting of a poor and half ruined peasantry, and priests almost as poor as themselves, what tie, or what call is there upon them to restrain the dictates of resentment and revenge ? At this day the best subjects among the catholicks, and many there are very much to be depended on, notwithstanding all their oppressions, are the men of landed property : how impolitic to wish to lessen the number ! to be desirous of cutting off two millions of peasantry from every possible connection that can influence their submission. The same observation is applicable to mortgages, and in short to all investments of money within the kingdom. Surely the obedience of a man who has property in the realm is much securer than if all he is worth is in the english or dutch funds ! While property lay exposed to the practices of power, the great body of the people who had been stripped of their all were more enraged than converted

verted : they adhered to the persuasion of their forefathers with the steadiest and most determined zeal ; while the priests actuated by the spirit of a thousand inducements, made profelytes among the common protestants in defiance of every danger. And the great glaring fact yet remains, and is even admitted by the warmest advocates for the laws of discovery that the established religion has not gained upon the catholick in point of numbers, but on the contrary that the latter have been rather on the increase. Public lists have been returned in the several dioceses which confirm this fact ; and the intelligence I received on my journey spoke the same language.

Now as it is the great body of the common people that form the strength of a country when willing subjects, and its weakness when ill-affected, this fact is a decision of the question : after seventy years undisturbed operation, the system adopted in queen Anne's reign has failed in this great end and aim ; and meets at this day with a more numerous and equally determined body of catholicks as it had to oppose when it was first promulgated. Has not the experience of every age, and every nation proved that the effect is invariable and universal ? Let a religion be what it may, and under whatever circumstances, no system of persecution ever yet had any other effect than to confirm its professors in their tenets, and spread their doctrines instead of restraining them. Thus the great plea of the roman catholick priests, and their merit with their congregations are the dangers they hazard, and the persecutions they suffer for the sake of their faith ; arguments that ever had and ever will have weight while human nature continues formed of its present materials.

The question of internal security is decided almost as soon as named : the submission of the catholicks is yet felt to be so much constrained that no idea has been formed, that their being trusted with arms is consistent with the safety of the kingdom. Laws founded in the very spirit of persecution, and receiving an edge in their operation from the unlimited power assumed by the protestant landlord, are strangely calculated to conciliate the affection, or secure the loyalty of a people. All the emotions of the heart of man revolt at such an idea. It was the opinion of a vast majority of the gentlemen I conversed with on the subject, that no people could be worse affected ; all Ireland knows and agrees in the fact, nay, the arguments for a continuation of the laws of discovery are founded on the principle, that the lower classes of the catholicks are not to be trusted. Is not this declaring that the disarmed, disgraced multitude, have not lost in their misfortunes the importance of their numbers ? The fears of an invasion speak the strength of the oppressed, and the extent of the oppression.

The disturbances of the whiteboys, which lasted ten years in spite of every exertion of legal power, were in many circumstances very remarkable, and in none more so than the surprizing intelligence among the insurgents where ever found : it was universal, and almost instantaneous : the numerous bodies of them at whatever distance from each other seemed animated with one soul ; and not an instance was known in that long course of time of a single individual betraying the cause ; the severest threats, and the most splendid promises of reward had no other effect but to draw closer the bands which connected a multitude, to all appearance so desultory. It was then evident that the iron rod of oppression had been far enough from securing the obedience, or crushing the spirit of the people. And all reflecting men who consider the value of religious liberty, will wish it never may have that effect ; will trust in the wisdom of Almighty God for teaching man to respect even those prejudices of his brethren that are imbibed as sacred rights from their earliest infancy, that by dear bought experience of the futility and ruin of the attempt, the persecuting spirit may cease, and TOLERATION establish that harmony and security which fourscore years experience has told us is not to be purchased at the expence of HUMANITY !

But if these exertions of a succession of ignorant legislatures have failed continually in propagating the religion of government, or in adding to the internal security of the kingdom, much more have they failed in the great object of national prosperity. The only considerable manufacture in Ireland which carries in all its parts the appearance of industry is the linen, and it ought never to be forgotten that this is solely confined to the protestant parts of the kingdom ; yet we may see from the example of France and other countries that there is nothing in the roman catholick religion itself that is incompatible with manufacturing industry. The poor catholicks in the south of Ireland spin wool very generally, but the pur-

chasers of their labour, and the whole worsted trade is in the hands of the quakers of Clonmell, Carrick, Bandon, &c. The fact is, the professors of that religion are under such discouragements that they cannot engage in any trade which requires both industry and capital. If they succeed and make a fortune what are they to do with it? They can neither buy land, nor take a mortgage, nor even fine down the rent of a lease. Where is there a people in the world to be found industrious under such a circumstance? But it seems to be the meaning, wish, and intent of the discovery laws, that none of them should ever be rich. It is the principle of that system that wealthy subjects would be nuisances, and therefore every means is taken to reduce, and keep them to a state of poverty. If this is not the intention of the laws they are the most abominable heap of self contradictions that ever were issued in the world. They are framed in such a manner that no catholic shall have the inducement to become rich. But if in spite of these laws he should accidentally gain wealth, that the whole kingdom should not afford him a possibility of investing it. Take the laws and their execution into one view, and this state of the case is so true, that they actually do not seem to be so much leveled at the religion, as at the property that is found in it. By the law a priest is to be transported and hanged for reading mass, but the mass is very readily left to them with impunity. Let the same priest, however, make a fortune by his mass, and from that moment he is the object of persecution. The domineering aristocracy of five hundred thousand protestants feel the sweets of having two millions of slaves; they have not the least objection to the tenets of that religion which keeps them by the law of the land in subjection; but property and slavery are too incompatible to live together. Hence the special care taken that no such thing should arise among them.

I must be free to own that when I have heard gentlemen who have favoured the laws as they now stand, urge the dangerous tenets of the church of Rome, quote the cruelties which have disgraced that religion in Ireland, and led them into the common routine of declamation on that side the question; (I cannot call it argument, for I never yet heard any thing that deserved the name) when I have been a witness to such conversations I could not but smile to see subscriptions handed about for building a mass house, at the very time that the heaviest vengeance of the law fully executed fell on those who possessed a landed property, or ventured a mortgage upon it.

It is no superficial view I have taken of this matter in Ireland, and being at Dublin at the time a very trifling part of these laws was agitated in parliament, I attended the debates, with my mind open to conviction, and auditor for the mere purpose of information: I have conversed on the subject with some of the most distinguished characters in the kingdom, and I cannot after all but declare that the scope, purport, and aim of the laws of discovery as executed are not against the catholic religion which increases under them, but against the industry, and property of whoever professes that religion. In vain has it been said, that consequence and power follow property, and that the attack is made in order to wound the doctrine through its property. If such was the intention, I reply, that seventy years experience prove the folly and futility of it. Those laws have crushed all the industry, and wrested most of the property from the catholics; but the religion triumphs; it is thought to encrease. Those who have handed about calculations to prove a decrease, admit on the face of them that it will require FOUR THOUSAND YEARS to make converts of the whole, supposing that work to go on in future, as it has in the past time. But the whole pretence is an affront to common sense, for it implies that you will lessen a religion by persecuting it: all history and experience condemn such a proposition.

The system pursued in Ireland has had no other tendency but that of driving out of the kingdom all the personal wealth of the catholics, and prohibiting their industry within it. The face of the country, every object in short which presents itself to the eye of a traveller, tells him how effectually this has been done. I urge it not as an argument, the whole kingdom speaks it as a fact. We have seen that this conduct has not converted the people to the religion of government; and instead of adding to the internal security of the realm it has endangered it, if therefore it does not add to the national prosperity, for what purpose but that of private tyranny could it have been embraced and persisted in? Mistaken ideas of private interest account for the actions of individuals, but what could have influenced the
british

british government to permit a system which must inevitably prevent the island from ever becoming of the importance which nature intended.

Relative to the national welfare it must appear extremely evident to the unprejudiced, that an aristocracy of five hundred thousand protestants, crushing the industry of two millions of poor catholics, can never advance the public interest. Secure the industry of your people, and leave their religion to itself. It is their hands not their faith you want; but do not tie these behind them, and then ask why they are not better employed. How is agriculture to flourish, manufactures to be established, or commerce to extend in a dependant country labouring under great disadvantages, if the united capitals, industry, activity and attention of the whole community be not employed for such purposes? When the territory of an island lies in such a wretched state, that though blessed with a better soil it yields on comparison with England as only two to five: when manufactures are of so sickly a growth as to be confined almost to one province, and when trade is known to exist only by the ships of other countries appearing in the harbours, while a kingdom is in such a situation, is it wisdom to persist in a system which has no other effect than to clog, defeat, or exterminate the capital and industry of four fifths of the inhabitants! Surely the gentlemen of that country when they complain of restricted commerce, and the remittance of the rentals of the absentees to England, cannot be thought serious in lamenting the situation of their country while they continue wedded to that internal ruin which is the work of their own hands, and the favourite child of their most active exertions. Complain not of restrictions while you yourselves enforce the most enormous restriction; and what are the body of absentees when compared with the absence of industry and wealth from the immense mass of two millions of subjects. I should be well founded in the assertion that both these evils, great and acknowledged as they are, are trifles when compared with the poverty and debility which results from the oppression of the roman catholics. Encourage the industry of those two millions of idle people, and the wealth arising from it, will make ample amends for most of the evils complained of in Ireland. This remedy is in your hands; you have no rivals to fear; no ministers to oppose you.

Think of the loss to Ireland of so many catholics of small property, resorting to the armies of France, Spain, Sardinia and Austria, for employment. Can it be imagined, that they would be so ready to leave their own country, if they could stay in it with any prospect of promotion, successful industry, or even liberal protection? It is known they would not; and that under a different system, instead of adding strength to the enemies of this empire, they would be among the foremost to enrich and defend it. Upon the whole it appears sufficiently clear, that in these three great objects, of making the religion of government general, internal security, and national prosperity, the laws of discovery have totally failed; a long series of experience enables us to discuss the subject by a reference to facts, instead of a reliance on theory and argument; the language of those facts is so uniform, that private interest must unite with habitual prejudice, to permit it for a moment to be misunderstood.

Upon the general question it has been asserted by the friends of the law, that gentlemen in England are apt very much to mistake the point from being ignorant of irish popery, which from the ignorance of the people, is more bigoted than any thing known in the sister kingdom; also that the papists in England are not claimants of all the landed property, which is the case in Ireland.

Both these observations are too shallow to bear the least examination; oppression has reduced the major part of the irish catholics to a poor ignorant rabble; you have made them ignorant, and then it is cried your ignorance is a reason for keeping you so; you shall live and die, and remain in ignorance, for you are too wretched to be enlightened. Take it as argument, or humanity, it is of a most precious kind. In all other parts of Europe the catholic religion has grown mild and even tolerant; a softer humanity is seen diffused in those countries, once the most bigoted; Spain and Portugal are no longer what they were. Had property taken its natural course in Ireland, the religion of the catholics there would have improved with that of their neighbours. Ignorance is the child of poverty, and you cannot expect the modern improvements, which have resulted from disseminated industry and wealth, should spread among a sect, whose property you have detached, and whose industry you have

crushed: to stigmatize them with ignorance and bigotry, therefore, is to reproach them with the evils which your own conduct has entailed; it is to bury them in darkness, and villify them because they are not enlightened.

But they claim your estates; they do so, as steadily at this moment as they did fourscore years ago; your system therefore has utterly failed even in this respect. Has the rod of oppression obliterated the memory or tradition of better days? Has severity conciliated the forgiveness of past, perhaps necessary injuries? Would protection, favour, and encouragement add fresh stings to their resentments? None can assert it. Ample experience ought to have convinced you, that the harshness of the law has not annihilated a single claim; if claims could have restored their estates, they would have regained them before now: but here, as I shewed before, the laws have weakened instead of strengthening the protestant interest; had a milder system encouraged their industry and property, they would have had something to lose, and would, with an enemy in the land, have thought twice before they joined him; in such a case whatever they had got would be endangered, and the hope of being reinstated in antient possessions, being distant and hazardous, present advantage might have induced them not only to be quiet, but to have defended the government, under whose humanity they found protection and happiness. Compare such a situation with the present, and then determine whether the system you have persisted in, has added a jot to the security of your possessions.

But let me ask, if these catholick claims, on the landed property, were not full as strong an argument in the reign of King William as they are at present? The moment of conflict was then but just decided; if ever rancour and danger could arise from them, that certainly was the season of apprehension: but it is curious to observe, that that wise monarch, would permit few acts to pass to oppress the catholicks. It was not until the reign of Anne, that the great system of oppression was opened: if therefore these laws were unnecessary from the revolution to the death of King William, and the experience of that reign tells us they were not, most certainly they cannot be so at present.

The enlightened spirit of TOLERATION, so well understood and practised in the greatest part of Europe, is making progress every day, save in Ireland alone: while the protestant religion enjoys peace and protection in catholick countries; why should a nation, in all other respects so generous and liberal as the irish, refuse at home what they receive and enjoy abroad.

As the absurdity of the present system can no longer be doubted, the question is, in what degree it should immediately be changed? Would it be prudent directly to arm, and put upon a level with the rest of the community, so large and necessarily, so disgusted a body of the people? Great sudden changes are rarely prudent; old habits are not immediately laid aside; and the temper of men's minds, nursed in ignorance, should have time to open and expand, that they may clearly comprehend their true interests: for this reason the alteration of the laws should be gradual, rather than by one or two repealing clauses, at once to overthrow the whole. But all things considered, there ought not to be a single session without doing something in so necessary a work. For instance, in one session to give them a power of taking mortgages; in another of purchasing lands; in a third, to repeal the abominable premiums on the division of a family against itself, by restoring to parents their rights; in a fourth, mas's to be rendered legal; in a fifth, a seminary, to be established by law, for the education of priests, and a bishop to be allowed, with those powers which are necessary for the exercise of the religion; by which means the foreign interest from a priesthood, entirely educated abroad, would be at once cut off. Thus far the most zealous friends to the protestant religion could not object upon any well founded principles. When once the operations of the new system had raised a spirit of industry, and attendant wealth among the lower classes of them, no evil consequences would flow from permitting them the use of arms. Give them an interest in the kingdom, and they will use their arms, not to overturn, but to defend it. Upon first principles, it is a miserable government, which acknowledges itself incapable of retaining men to their obedience that have arms in their hands; and such an one as is to be found in Ireland alone. In like manner I should apprehend that it might be proper

proper to give them a voice in the election of members of parliament. There is great reason to believe, that they will not be treated by gentlemen in the country in the manner they ought to be, until this sort of importance is given them.

Let it in general be remembered, that no country in the world has felt any inconveniences from the most liberal spirit of toleration : that on the contrary, those are universally acknowledged to be the most prosperous, and the most flourishing, which have governed their subjects on the most tolerating principles. That other countries, which have been actuated by the spirit of bigotry, have continued poor, weak, and helpless : these are circumstances which bear so immediately upon the question, that we may determine, without any hazard of extravagance, that Ireland will never prosper to any great degree until she profits by the example of her neighbours. Let her dismiss her illiberal fears and apprehensions ; let her keep pace with the improvement of the age, and with the mild spirit of european manners, let her transfer her anxiety from the faith to the industry of her subjects ; let her embrace, cherish, and protect the catholics as good subjects, and they will become such ; let her, despising and detesting every species of religious persecution, consider all religions as brethren, employed in one great aim, the wealth, power, and happiness of the general community ; let these be the maxims of her policy, and she will no longer complain of poverty and debility, she will be at home prosperous, and abroad formidable.

S E C T I O N VIII.

Price of Provisions.

IN the speculations of modern politicians, so many conclusions have been drawn from the prices of provisions in different countries, and some of them with so much reason, that every one must readily admit a considerable degree of importance to be annexed to such information : with this view, I was as particular in these enquiries as I had been before in my english journies. The following table shews the result.

Places.

<i>Places.</i>	<i>Beef.</i> <i>per lb.</i>	<i>Mutton.</i> <i>per lb.</i>	<i>Veal.</i> <i>per lb.</i>	<i>Pork.</i> <i>per lb.</i>	<i>Butter.</i> <i>per lb.</i>	<i>Chick.</i>	<i>Turkey.</i>	<i>Goose.</i>
	d. f.	d. f.	d. f.	d. f.	d. f.	d. f.	d. f.	d. f.
Dublin,	3 2	3 2	5	3 2	8	12	30	18
Luthellstown,	3 2	3 2	4	3	8			
Kilcock,	2 2	3 1	3 1	2 2	6 2	2 2	12	8 3
Slane,	3 1	3 2	4	1 3	6	3	10	6
Packenham,	2 2	3 2	4	3	6	3	12	8
Tullamore,	2 3	2	3	2 1	2	2		8
Shaen Castle,	2 2	2 2	3	2 1	5 2	2 2	13	7
Carlow,	2 2	2 3	3	3	6	2	12	8
Kilfaine,	2 2	2 2		2	6 2	2	8	6 2
Taghmon,	2	2 2	2	2		2	8	7 2
Forth,	2	2 2	2 2	2	7			
Prospect,	2 2	2 2			5	2	6	12
Mount Kennedy,	3 2	3 2	5	3 2	8			
Market Hill,	3	3 2	4	2 2	6	2 2	18	11
Armagh,	2 3	3	3 1	3 1	5 2	2 2	16	13
Warrentown,	2 3	3	3	2 2	5	2	15	12
Portaferry,	2 3	2 2	3	2	5	1 3	13	13
Shaen Castle,	2 2	2 2	3 1	2 2	5	1 2		13
Belfast,	2 3	3 0	2 2	2 2	5	2 2	12	14
Lesly Hill,	2	3	3 2	2 2	4 2	2	12	12
Limavaddy,	2 3	3 1	3 1	2	5 1	1 2	12	12
Innishoen,	2 1	2 2	3	2 2	4 2	2		
Clonleigh,	3	2 2	3 2	2 2	5 2	2	12	13
Mount Charles,	2	2 2	3 2	2	4	1	12	6
Castle Caldwell,	2 1	3	3 1	2	5 2	2	10	5 2
Belle Isle,	2	2 1		1 3	5	1 2	6	6
Florence Court,	2 2	3		2	4 2	2	12	6
Farnham,	2 2	3	3 3	1 3	5	1 3	12	8
Ballynogh,	2 2	2 1		1 2	4 2	2	9	6
Strokestown,	2	2 3	4	1 2	4	2	7 2	3 2
Macry,	2 1	2	3 2	1 3	5	2	8	8
Sortland,	3	3	4	2		1 2	8	6
Kilalla,	2 1	2 2		2	4 3	2	13	8
Westport,	2 1	3		2	6	1 3	10	3 1
Moniva,	3	3		2	6	2	10	9
Drumoland,	2 2	2 2		2	7	1 2	6	6
Limerick,	2 3	2 2		2 1	5	2 2	5	6
Dorneraile,	2 2	2 2		2 2	7	2 3	8	4 1
Corke,	3	3	3	2 2	7 2	2 6	10	6
Nedeen,	1 3	2		1 3	6	2		6
Arbella,	2 3	2 2			4 2	1 2	10 2	6
Tarbat,	2 2	2 2		2 2	5			
Castle Oliver,	3	3		2 2				
Tipperary,	3	3		2 2		2 3	12	12
Curraghmore,	3	3	3 3	2 1	6			
Waterford,	3	3	3 2	2 2	7	3	12	10
Furness,	2 3	2 3	4 3	2 3	8	3	12	12
Gloster,	2 2	2 3	2 3	2	5 2	2 3	12	12
Johnstown,	3	3 2	3	3	6	3	11	6
Derry,	2 2	3	6	3	5	2	10	12
Castle Lloyd,	3	2 3	2 2	2 2	6	2	7 2	5
Mitchel's Town,	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	6	2 2	8	8
Average,	2 2	2 3	3 2	2 1	5 3	2 2	10 3	8 2

In order for a comparison, I shall add the prices of my english tours.

	<i>Butter.</i>	<i>Mutton.</i>	<i>Beef.</i>	<i>Veal.</i>	<i>Pork.</i>
The Southern Tour 1767, —	6½	4¼	4	3¾	
The Northern Tour, 1768, —	6	3	3	3	3½
The Eastern Tour 1770, —	6½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Average of the three, —	6¼	3½	3½	3¾	3½
Ireland in 1776, — —	5¾	2¾	2½	3½	2¾

Average of the four meats in England, — 3½d.

Ditto in Ireland, — — 2¾d.

Ireland to England as 11 to 14.

I should remark, that there has been very little variation in the prices of meat in England since the dates of those journies; the rates in Ireland are higher than I conceived them, and do not from cheapness afford any reason to conclude that country, as far as cattle extends, to be in a state of backwardness. The whole of these minutes, however, concerns the home consumption only, for as to the immense trade in beef and pork (of which hereafter) their rates are considerably under these, as may be supposed from the greatness of the scale, in like manner as the consumption prices in England are near double those of the victualling office.

Poultry being so extremely cheap is owing to several causes: First, The smallness of the demand; the towns are few, small, and poor; and all gentlemen's families raise a quantity for themselves. Second, The plenty of potatoes, upon which they are fed, being vastly greater, and dispensed with less œconomy than the corn in England, upon which poultry is there reared. Third, The extreme warmth of the cabbins, in which the young broods are nourished. Fourth, The natural produce of white clover, which is much greater than in England, and upon the seeds of which, young turkies, in particular, are advantageously fed. I know a gentleman in England, who reared an amazing number of turkies and peachicks the year his lawn was sown with white clover, but the soil being improper it lasted but one year, and he neither before nor after had such success with those broods.

SECTION IX.

Roads—Cars.

FOR a country so very far behind us as Ireland, to have got suddenly so much the start of us in the article of roads, is a spectacle that cannot fail to strike the english traveller exceedingly. But from this commendation the turnpikes in general must be excluded, they are as bad as the bye roads are admirable. It is a common complaint, that the tolls of the turnpikes are so many jobs, and the roads left in a state that disgrace the kingdom.

The following is the system on which the cross roads are made. Any person wishing to make or mend a road, has it measured by two persons, who swear to the measurement before a justice of the peace. It is described as leading from one market town to another (it matters

not

not in what direction) that it will be a public good, and that it will require such a sum, per perch of twenty-one feet, to make or repair the same; a certificate to this purpose (of which printed forms are sold) with the blanks filled up, is signed by the measurers, and also by two persons called overseers, one of whom is usually the person applying for the road, the other the labourer he intends to employ as an overseer of the work, which overseer swears also before the justice the truth of the valuation. The certificate, thus prepared, is given by any person to some one of the grand jury, at either of the assizes, but usually in the spring. When all the common business of trials is over, the jury meets on that of roads; the chairman reads the certificates, and they are all put to the vote, whether to be granted or not. If rejected, they are torn in pieces and no farther notice taken, if granted they are put on the file.

This vote of approbation, without any farther form, enables the person, who applied for the presentment, immediately to construct or repair the road in question, which he must do at his own expence, he must finish it by the following assizes, when he is to send a certificate of his having expended the money pursuant to the application; this certificate is signed by the foreman, who also signs an order on the treasurer of the county to pay him, which is done immediately. In like manner are bridges, houses of correction, gaols, &c. &c. built and repaired. If a bridge over a river, which parts two counties, half is done by one, and the other half by the other county.

The expence of these works is raised by a tax on the lands, paid by the tenant; in some counties it is acreable, but in others it is on the *plough land*, and as no two plough lands are of the same size, is a very unequal tax. In the county of Meath it is acreable, and amounts to one shilling per acre, being the highest in Ireland; but in general it is from three pence to sixpence per acre, and amounts of late years, through the whole kingdom, to one hundred and forty thousand pounds a year.

The juries will very rarely grant a presentment for a road, which amounts to above fifty pounds, or for more than six or seven shillings a perch, so that if a person wants more to be made than such a sum will do, he divides it into two or three different measurements or presentments. By the act of parliament all presentment roads must be twenty-one feet wide at least from fence to fence, and fourteen feet of it formed with stone or gravel.

As the power of the grand jury extends in this manner to the cutting new roads, where none ever were before, as well as to the repairing and widening old ones, exclusive, however, of parks, gardens, &c. it was necessary to put a restriction against the wanton expence of it. Any presentment may be traversed that is opposed, by denying the allegations of the certificate; this is sure of delaying it until another assizes, and in the mean time persons are appointed to view the line of road demanded, and report on the necessity or hardship of the case. The payment of the money may also be traversed after the certificate of its being laid out; for if any person views, and finds it a manifest imposition and job, he has that power to delay payment until the cause is cleared up and proved. But this traverse is not common. Any persons are eligible for asking presentments; but it is usually done only by resident gentlemen, agents, clergy, or respectable tenantry. It follows necessarily, that every person is desirous of making the roads leading to his own house, and that private interest alone is considered in it, which I have heard objected to the measure; but this I must own appears to me the great merit of it. Whenever individuals act for the public alone, the public is very badly served; but when the pursuit of their own interest is the way to benefit the public, then is the public good sure to be promoted; such is the case of presentment of roads; for a few years the good roads were all found leading from houses like rays from a center, with a surrounding space, without any communication; but every year brought the remedy, until in a short time, those rays, pointing from so many centers, met, and then the communication was complete. The original act passed but seventeen years ago, and the effect of it in all parts of the kingdom is so great, that I found it perfectly practicable to travel upon wheels by a map; I will go here. I will go there; I could trace a route upon paper as wild as fancy could dictate, and every where I found beautiful roads without break or hindrance, to enable me to realize my design. What a figure would a person make in England, who should attempt to move in that manner, where the roads, as Dr. Burn has very well observed, are almost in as bad a state as in the time of Philip and Mary. In a few years there will not be a piece of bad road except turnpikes, in all Ireland. The money raised for this first and most important of all national purposes,

is expended among the people who pay it, employs themselves and their teams, encourages their agriculture, and facilitates so greatly the improvement of waste lands, that it ought always to be considered as the first step to any undertaking of that sort.

At first, roads in common with bridges, were paid out of the general treasure of the county, but by a subsequent act, the road tax is now on baronies; each barony pays for its own roads. By another act, juries were enabled to grant presentments of narrow mountain roads, at two shillings and sixpence a perch. By another, they were empowered to grant presentments of footpaths, by the side of roads, to one shilling a perch. By a very late act, they are also enabled to contract, at three halfpence per perch per annum, from the first making of a road, for keeping it in repair, which before could not be done without a fresh presentment. Arthur French, Esq; of Moniva, whose agriculture is described in the preceding minutes, and who at that time represented the county of Galway, was the worthy citizen who first brought this excellent measure into parliament: Ireland, and every traveller that ever visits it, ought, to the latest time, to revere the memory of such a distinguished benefactor to the public. Before that time the roads, like those of England, remained impassable, under the miserable police of the six days labour. Similar good effects would here flow from adopting the measure, which would ease the kingdom of a great burthen, in its public effect absolutely contemptible; and the tax here, as in Ireland, ought to be so laid, as to be borne by the tenant, whose business it is at present to repair.

Upon the imperfections of the irish system I have only to remark, that juries should, in some cases be more ready than they are to grant these presentments. In general, they are extremely liberal, but sometimes they take silly freaks of giving none, or very few. Experience having proved from the general goodness of the roads, that abuses cannot be very great, they should go on with spirit to perfect the great work throughout the kingdom; and as a check upon those who lay out the money, it might perhaps be adviseable to print county maps of the presentment roads, with corresponding lists and tables of the names of all persons who have obtained presentments, the sums they received, and for what roads. These should be given freely by the jurymen, to all their acquaintance, that every man might know, to whose carelessness or jobbing, the public was indebted for bad roads, when they had paid for good ones. Such a practice would certainly deter many.

At 11,42,642 acres in the kingdom, one hundred and forty thousand pounds a year amounts to just threepence an acre for the whole territory, a very trifling tax for such an improvement, and which almost ranks in public ease and benefit with that of the post-office.

It is not to this system singly, that Ireland is indebted for the goodness of her roads; another circumstance calls materially for observation, which is the vehicle of carriage: all land-carriage in that kingdom is performed with one-horse cars or carts. Those of the poor people are wretched things, formed with a view to cheapness alone; and the loads they carry on them when working by the day, are such as an englishman would be ashamed to take in a wheelbarrow, yet they suffer their horses to walk so slow with these burthens, that I am confident, work of this sort, done by hire, is five hundred per cent. dearer than in England. Even when they work for themselves, their loads are contemptible, and not equal to what their *garrens*, miserable as they are, would draw. Cars, however, which work regularly for mills in carrying flour to Dublin, do better; the common load is from six to ten hundred weight, which, considering the horses, is very well; eighteen hundred weight has been often carried thither from Slane mills. The lowness of the wheels suits a mountainous country; but if there is truth in the mechanic powers, is in general a great disadvantage to the animal. Great numbers of these cars consist only of a flat bottom over the axletree, on which a few sacks, logs, or stones, may be laid, or a little heap of gravel in the center. Others have side-boards, and some baskets fixed. But such an imperfect and miserable machine deserves not a moment's attention; the object of importance arising only from one horse for draught.

Some gentlemen have carts very well made in respect of strength, but so heavy, as to be almost as faulty as the common car. Others have larger and heavier two-horse carts; and a few have been absurd enough to introduce english waggons. The well-made roads preserving them-

selves for so many years, is owing to this practice of using one-horse carriages, which is worthy of universal imitation. Notwithstanding the expence bestowed on the turnpikes in England, great numbers of them are in a most wretched state, which will continue while the legislature permits so many horses to be harnessed in one carriage. A proof how little one-horse carriages wear roads, is the method used in Ireland to construct them; they throw up a foundation of earth in the middle of the space from the outsides, on that they immediately form a layer of limestone, broken to the size of a turkey's egg; on this a thin scattering of earth to bind the stones together, and over that a coat of gravel, where it is to be had. Their carriages considered, no fault is to be found with this mode, for the road is beautiful and durable, but being all finished at once, with very little or no time for settling, an english waggon would presently cut through the whole, and demolish the road as soon as made, yet it is perfectly durable under cars and coaches.

I have weighed common cars in Ireland, and find the lightest weigh 2 C. 2 qrs. 14 lb. good carts for one horse at Mr. O'Neil's, 4 C. 2 qrs. 21 lb. and Lord Kingsborough had larger carts from Dublin, with five-feet wheels, which weighed 7 C. but these are much too heavy, in the lightness of the machine consists a great part of the merit. A common english waggon with nine-inch wheels from 55 Cwt. to three tons. I built a narrow wheeled one in Suffolk for four horses, the weight of which was 25 Cwt.

						Cwt.	qrs.	lb.
Every horse in the irish car draws, weight of carriage,	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	14
In Mr. O'Neil's carts,	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	21
In Lord Kingsborough's,	—	—	—	—	—	7	0	0
In a broad wheeled waggon	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	0
In a narrow ditto,	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	0

The extreme lightness of the common car is not to be taken into the question, as it is inapplicable to a profitable load of any thing, except a single block, or sacks. It is absolutely necessary a cart should be capacious enough for a very light but bulky load, such as malt dust, bran, dry ashes, &c. as well as for hay and straw. The Suffolk waggon for four horses is twelve feet long, four broad, and two deep in the sides and ends, consequently, the body of it contains just 96 cubical feet; the end ladders extended for hay or straw four feet more and there was a fixed side one, which added two feet to the breadth, consequently the surface on which hay was built, extended just ninety-six square feet. In a great variety of uses, to which I applied that waggon, I found four middling horses, worth about twelve pounds each, would draw a full load of every thing in it; viz. from fifty to sixty hundred weight of hay, twelve quarters of wheat, or fifty-five hundred weight, and the fullage of Bury sheets by computation, judging by the labour of the horses to a much greater weight, perhaps above three tons. I have more than once taken these measures as a guide for a one-horse cart, to give one horse an exact proportion of what four did in that waggon, the dimensions of the cart must be as follow: the body of it must be just four feet long, three feet broad, and two feet deep; the end ladders each one foot, and the side ones six inches. This will be upon a par with the waggon; but I gave the carts the advantage, by end ladders being each eighteen inches, and the side ones twelve, which made the whole surface thirty-five square feet, four times which is one hundred and forty instead of ninety-six. The weight of these carts complete were from four to five hundred; the wheels five feet high, and the axle-tree iron, which is essential to a light draft; such carts cost in England, complete and painted, from nine pounds to ten guineas. Whoever tries them will find a horse will draw in them far more than the fourth of the load of a four-horse team, or than the eighth of an eight-horse one, for he will in a tolerably level country draw a ton.

I have often conversed with the drivers of carriers waggons, as well as with intelligent carters in the service of farmers, and their accounts have united with my own observation, to prove that one horse in eight, and to the amount of half a horse in four, are always absolutely idle, moving on without drawing any weight; a most unremitting attention is necessary even for a partial remedy of this, but with careless drivers the evil is greater; hence, the superiority of horses drawing single, in which mode they cannot fail of performing their share of the work.

work. The expence, trouble and disappointment of an accident, are in proportion to the size of the team; with a broad wheeled waggon and eight horses, they are very great, but with eight carts they are very trifling; if one breaks down, the load and cart are easily distributed among the other seven, and little time lost. When business is carried on by means of single horse carts, every horse in a stable is employed; but with waggons, he who keeps one, two, or three horses, must stand still; and what is to be done with five, six, or seven? It is only four or eight horses that form an exact team; but the great object is the preservation of the roads; to save these the legislature has prescribed wheels, even sixteen inches broad, but all such machines are so enormously heavy, that they are ruinous to those who use them; besides, they form such exact paths for the following teams to walk in, that the hardest road is presently cut into ruts, the most solid materials ground into dust, and every exertion in repairing baffled as fast as tried. Roads, which are made annually at a vast expence, are found almost impassable from the weights carried in waggons. It may be asserted, without exaggeration, that if there were nothing but one-horse carriages in England, half the present highway expence might be saved, and the roads at the same time incomparably better.

It must be admitted, that the expence of drivers would at first be greater, for a man would not drive above three of them; a man and two boys would do for nine: but why they should not be as well managed here as in Ireland I cannot see; a man there will often drive five, six, or even eight cars. I have myself seen a single girl drive six. Even in this respect there is an advantage which does not attend waggons, a boy could any where manage one or two, but twenty boys would not be trusted to drive a waggon. Granting, however, that the expence under this head was something greater, still is it vastly more than counterbalanced by the superior advantages stated above, which render it an equal object to individuals and the public,

S E C T I O N X.

Timber—Planting.

THROUGH every part of Ireland, in which I have been, one hundred contiguous acres are not to be found without evident signs, that they were once wood, or at least very well wooded. Trees, and the roots of trees of the largest size, are dug up in all the bogs; and in the cultivated countries, the stumps of trees destroyed shew that the destruction has not been of any antient date. A vast number of the irish names for hills, mountains, vallies and plains, have forests, woods, groves, or trees for the signification; Lord Kingsborough has an hundred thousand acres about Mithelstown, in which you must take a breathing gallop to find a stick large enough to beat a dog, yet is there not an enclosure without the remnants of trees, many of them large; nor is it a peculiarity to that estate: in a word, the greatest part of the kingdom exhibits a naked, bleak, dreary view for want of wood, which has been destroyed for a century past, with the most thoughtless prodigality, and still continues to be cut and wasted, as if it was not worth the preservation. The Baltic fir supplies all the uses of the kingdom, even those for which nothing is proper but oak; and the distance of all the ports of Ireland from that sea, makes the supply much dearer than it is in England.

In conversation with gentlemen, I found they very generally laid the destruction of timber to the common people; who, they say, have an aversion to a tree; at the earliest age they steal it for a walking-stick; afterwards for a spade handle; later for a car shaft; and later still for a cabin rafter; that the poor do steal it is certain, but I am clear the gentlemen of the country may thank themselves. Is it the consumption of sticks and handles that has destroyed millions of acres? Absurdity! The profligate, prodigal, worthless landowner cuts down his acres, and leaves them unfenced against cattle, and then he has the impudence to charge the scarcity of trees to the walking-sticks of the poor, goes into the house of commons and votes for an act, which lays a penalty of forty shillings on any poor man having a twig in his possession, which he cannot account for. This act, and twenty more in the same

spirit, stands at present a monument of their self-condemnation and oppression. They have made wood so scarce, that the wretched cottars cannot procure enough for their necessary consumption, and then they pass penal laws on their stealing, or even possessing, what it is impossible for them to buy. If by another act you would hang up all the landlords who cut woods without fencing, and destroy trees without planting, you would lay your axe to the root of the evil, and rid the kingdom of some of the greatest pests in it; but in the name of humanity and common sense, let the poor alone, for whose stealing in this, as in most other cases, nobody ought to be answerable but yourselves. I was an eye-witness in various parts of the kingdom, of woods cut down and not cosped. The honestest poor upon earth, if in the same situation as the Irish, would be stealers of wood, for they must either steal or go without what is an absolute necessary of life. Instead of being the destroyers of trees, I am confident they may be made preservers of them; recollect Sir William Osborne's mountaineers, to whom he gave a few Lombardy poplars, they cherished them with as much care as his own gardener could have done. At Mitchelstown, I had opportunities of making observations which convinced me of the same thing; I saw in every respect, indeed all over Ireland, the greatest readiness to do whatever would recommend them to their landlord's favour. I had three plans relative to wood, which I have reason to believe would answer in any part of the kingdom: *First*, To give premiums to the cottars who planted and preserved trees, and not to let it depend on the premium alone, but to keep a list of those who appeared as candidates, and upon every other occasion to let them be objects of favour. *Second*, To force all the tenantry to plant under the following clause in their leases:

"And also, that the said A. B. his heirs and assigns, shall and will, every year, during the continuance of this demise, well and truly plant, and thoroughly secure until the end of the said term, from all injury or damage by cattle, or otherwise, one timber tree for every acres that are contained in the herein demised premises, provided that such trees shall be supplied gratis, on demand, by the said C. D. his heirs and assigns; and in case any trees shall die or fail, that in such case the said A. B. shall and will plant in the year next after such death or failure, an equal number of timber trees in the said demised premises, in the place or stead of such tree or trees so dying or failing as aforesaid; and in case, at the expiration of the said demise, the proper number of trees, of a due age, according to the meaning and intent of these premises, be not left growing and standing upon the said demised premises, or some part thereof, that then the said A. B. his heirs or assigns, shall forfeit and pay unto the said C. D. his heirs and assigns, the sum of five shillings for every tree so deficient by death, failure, injury, or negligence."

The proportion of acres per tree to be according to circumstances. It should always be remembered, that the clauses of a lease rarely execute themselves; it is the landlord's, or his agent's attention that must make them efficient. A tenantry every where is very much dependent, unless leases for lives are given, but I suppose them for twenty-one years. In Ireland their poverty makes this dependance still greater. They ask time for the payment of their rent; they run in arrears; they are threatened or driven; if they pay well, still they have some favour to ask, or expect; in a word, they are in such a situation, that attention would secure the most entire compliance with such a clause. If once, or twice, upon an estate, a man was drove for his rent, who neglected the trees, while another in the same circumstances had time given him, because he preserved them, the effect would presently be seen. *Third*, To have a magazine of sticks, spade handles, pieces for cars, and cabbins, &c. laid in at the cheapest rate, and kept for selling at prime cost to whoever would buy them. These would want to be purchased but for a few years, as small plantations of the timber willow would in four years furnish an ample supply.

That these three circumstances united, would presently plant a country I am convinced; I saw a willingness among Lord Kingborough's little tenants to do it, some even who made a beginning the very first year; and hundreds assured me of their most assiduous compliance. Such a plan most certainly should not preclude large annual plantations on the land which a gentleman keeps in hand; but the beauty of the country depends on trees, scattered over the whole

whole face of it. What a figure would Ireland make on a comparison with its present state, if one tree now stood by each cabin! but it is the spirit of the Irish nation to attempt every thing by laws, and then leave those laws to execute themselves, which indeed with many of them is not at all amiss. It is by no means clear, whether the act which gives to the tenant a property in the trees he plants, to be ascertained by a jury at the end of the lease, and paid by the landlord, has any great tendency to encrease the quantity of wood. It has unfortunately raised an undecided question of law, whether the act goes to trees, which were originally furnished from the landlord's nursery, or planted in consequence of a clause in a lease. If it should so interfere with such plantations, it would be highly mischievous: Also, for a man to be forced either to buy or to sell his property, at the price fixed by a jury, is a harsh circumstance. To this cause it is probably owing, that the plantations made in consequence of that act, are perfectly insignificant.

I have made many very minute calculations of the expence, growth, and value of plantations in Ireland, and am convinced from them that there is no application of the best land in that kingdom will equal the profit of planting the worst in it. A regard for the interest of posterity call for the oak and other trees which require more than an age to come to maturity, but with other views the quick growing ones are for profit much superior; these come to perfection so speedily that three fourths of the landlords of the kingdom might expect to cut where they planted, and reap those great profits, which most certainly attend it. There are timber willows (sallies as they are called in Ireland) which rise with incredible rapidity. I have measured them at Mr. Bolton's near Waterford twenty-one feet high in the third year from the planting, and as strait as a larch. With this willow, woods would arise as it were by enchantment, and all sorts of farm offices and cabins might be built of it in seven years from planting. Is it not inexcusable to complain of a want of wood when it is to be had with so much ease? Larch and beech thrive wonderfully wherever I have seen them planted; and the lombardy poplar makes the same luxuriant shoots for which it is famous in England; and though a soft wood yet it is applicable to such a multiplicity of purposes, and so easily propagated that it deserves the greatest attention.

As to oak they are always planted in Ireland, from a nursery I have seen very handsome trees as old as fifteen years, some perhaps older, but even at that age they run incomparably more into head than plants in England which have never been transplanted. It is a great misfortune that a century at least is necessary to prove the mischief of the practice: We know by most ample experience that the noble oaks in England applicable to the use of the large ships of war, were all *sown* where they remained. That tree pushes its tap root so powerfully that I have the greatest reason to believe the future growth suffers essentially from its being injured, and I defy the most skilful nurseryman to take them up upon a large scale without breaking, if it is broke in the part where it is an almost imperceptible thread, it is just the same as cutting it off in a larger part, the steady perpendicular power is lost, and the surface roots must feed the plant, these may do for a certain growth, and to a certain period, but the tree will never become the sovereign of the forest, or the waves. I know several plantations of sown oak in England from twelve to thirty, and some forty years growth which are truly beautiful, and infinitely beyond any thing I have seen in Ireland.

The woods yet remaining in that kingdom are what in England would be called copses. They are cut down at various growths, some being permitted to stand forty years. Attentive landlords fence when they cut to preserve the future shoots, others do not. But this is by no means the system with a view to which I recommend planting, timber of any kind cut as such will pay double and treble what the shoots from any stubs in the world will do. They may come to a tolerable size, and yield a large value; but the profit is not to be compared with. To explain this, permit me one or two remarks.

If willow, poplars, ash, &c. are planted for timber to be cut at whatever age, ten, twenty or thirty years; when cut the stools will throw out many shoots, but let it not be imagined that these shoots will ever again become timber; they will never be any thing but copse wood, and attended in future with no more than the copse profit, which is not half that of timber; in such a case the land should be new planted, and the old stools either grubbed up for fuel, or else the growth from them cut very often for faggots till the new timber gets up enough to drip

drip on and destroy it. The common practice in Ireland is cutting young trees down when they do not shoot well, this is converting timber to copse wood; attention to cutting off all the shoots but one will train up a stem, but I question whether it will ever make a capital tree; if the other shoots are not annually cut it will never be any tree at all; and yet it is certainly a fact that the new shoot is much finer than the old one, which perhaps would have come to nothing; but better remove it entirely than depend on new shoots for making timber. The gentlemen in that kingdom are much too apt to think they have got timber, when in fact they have nothing but fine large copse wood. A strong proof of this is the great double ditches made thirty or forty years ago, and planted with double rows of trees, generally ash, these for two reasons are usually (for the age) not half so good as trees of the same growth in England; one is, many of them were cut when young, and arose from stools; the other is their growing out of a high dry bank, full of the roots of four rows of white thorn or apple quick, besides those of the trees themselves. It is a fact that I never saw a single capital tree growing on these banks: all hedge trees are difficult to preserve, and therefore must have been cut when young. Ash in England growing from a level are generally worth in forty years from forty shillings to three pounds. And I know many trees of fifty to sixty years growth that would sell readily at from four to eight pounds, yet the price in Ireland is higher. Another practice which is common in that kingdom is pruning timber trees, and even oaks. I was petrified at seeing oaks of ten and fifteen feet high with all the side shoots cut off. There are treatises upon planting which recommend this practice as well as cutting down young trees to make the better *timber*. There are no follies which are not countenanced, and even prescribed in some book or other, but unhappy is it for a kingdom when they are listened to. Burn your books, and attend to nature; come to England and view our oak, our ash, and our beech all self sown, and never cursed with the exertions of art. Shew me such trees from the hands of nurserymen and pruners before you waste your breath with shallow reasoning to prove that the most common of the operations of nature must be assisted by the axe or pruning hook.

One reason why both fences and trees in Ireland which have once been made are now neglected and in ruin, is owing to the first planting being all that is thought of; the hedges are suffered to grow for thirty or forty years without cutting; the consequence of which is their being ragged, and open at bottom, and full of gaps whole perches long. But all fences should be cut periodically, for the same reason that trees ought never to be touched, their pushing out many shoots for every one that is taken off; this should be repeated every fifteen years; a proper portion of the thorns should be slashed down to form an impenetrable live hedge, and the rest cut off, and made into faggots. But in the Irish way the fences yield no fuel at all. To permit a hedge to grow too long without cutting, not only ruins it for a fence, but spoils the trees that are planted with it.

Lastly, let me observe, that the amazing neglect in not planting osier grounds for making baskets and small hoops, is unpardonable throughout the kingdom, they no where thrive better; a small one I planted in the county of Corke grew six feet the first year, yet at that port there is a considerable importation of them from Portugal.

S E C T I O N XI.

Manures—Waste Lands.

THE manure commonly used in Ireland is lime; inexhaustible quarries of the finest limestone are found in most parts of that island, with either turf, or culm at a moderate price to burn it. To do the gentlemen of that country justice, they understand this branch of husbandry very well, and practice it with uncommon spirit. Their kilns are the best I have any where seen, and great numbers are kept burning the whole year through, without a thought

thought of stopping on account of the winter. Their draw kilns burn up to forty barrels a day; and what they call french kilns, which burn the stone without breaking, have been made even to five thousand barrels in a kiln. Mr. Leslie laying ten thousand barrels on his land in one year, and Mr. Aldworth as much, are instances which I never heard equalled. The following table will shew the general practice.

	Barrels per acre.	Price per barrel.		
		s.	d.	f.
Mr. M ^c Farlan,	160		7	
Slaine,	120		7	
Headfort,	80			
Packenham,			6	
Mr. Marley,	160	1	0	
Kilfaine,	80			
Mr. Kennedy,	40	2	6	
Hampton,	125		7	
Ld. Ch. Baron Forster,	160		9	
Market Hill,	30	1	6	
Warrenstown,	140	1	1	
Lecale,	115		11	
Mr. Leslie,	160			
Newtown Limavady,	100	1	0	
Castle Caldwell,			6	
Inniskilling,	80		8	
Florence Court,	60		8	
Farnham,	150			
Mr. Mahon,			5	
Mr. Brown,			3	
Mr. French,			4	
Woodlawn,			4	
Anns Grove,	100		8	
Mr. Aldworth,	160		6	
Lord Donneraile,	80		5	2
Mallow,	100	1	1	
Mr. Gordon,	50		7	2
Coolmore,	40		9	
Nedeen,		1	0	
Mucrus,	70		7	
Mr. Blennerhasset,	100		6	
Mr. Bateman,	50		6	
Tarbat,	40	1	0	
Lord Tyrone,	200	1	0	
Average,	100		9	

These quantities are upon the whole considerable. The price shews the plenty of this manure in Ireland. To find any place where it can be burnt for three pence and four pence is truly wonderful, but can only be from the union of turf and limestone at the same place.

I no where heard of any land that had been over limed, or on which the repetition of it had proved so disadvantageous as it has sometimes been found in England*.

* See a Letter from the late Earl of Holdernefs to me, inserted in the second Edition of the *Northern Tour*.

Limestone gravel is a manure peculiar to Ireland; and is most excellent. It is a blue gravel, mixed with stones as large as a man's fist, and sometimes with a clay loam; but the whole mass has a very strong effervescence with acid. On uncultivated lands it has the same wonderful effect as lime, and on clay arable, a much greater; but it is beneficial to all soils. In the isle of Anglesea, a country which very much resembles Ireland, there is a gravel much like it, which has also some effervescence; but I never met with it in any other part of England.

Marle in Ireland is not so common as these manures. That which is ofteneft found is white, and remarkably light; it lies generally under bogs. Shell marle is dredged up in the Shannon, and in the harbour of Waterford.

In the catalogue of manures, I wish I could add the composts formed in well littered farm yards, but there is not any part of husbandry in the kingdom more neglected than this; indeed I have scarce any where seen the least vestige of such a convenience as a yard surrounded with offices for the winter shelter, and feeding of cattle. All sorts of animals range about the field in winter, by which means the quantity of dung raised is contemptible. To dwell upon a point of such acknowledged importance is needless. Time it is to be hoped will introduce a better system.

WASTE LANDS.

Although the proportion of waste territory is not, I apprehend, so great in Ireland as it is in England, certainly owing to the rights of commonage in the latter country which fortunately have no existence in Ireland; yet are the tracts of desert mountains and bogs very considerable. Upon these lands is to be practised the most profitable husbandry in the king's dominions; for so I am persuaded the improvement of mountain land to be. By that expression is not to be understood only very high lands, all waste in Ireland that are not bog they call *mountain*; so that you hear of land under that denomination where even a hillock is not to be seen. The largest tracts, however, are adjoining to real mountains, especially where they slope off to a large extent gradually to the south. Of this sort lord Kingsbrough has a very extensive and most unprofitable range. In examining it, with many other mountains, and in about five months experience of the beginning only of an improvement under my direction there, I had an opportunity of ascertaining a few points which made me better acquainted with the practicability of those improvements than if I had only passed as a traveller through the kingdom. By stating a few of the circumstances of this attempt, others who have mountains under similar circumstances may judge of the propriety of undertaking their improvement. The land has a very gentle declivity from the Galty mountains towards the south, and to a new road lord Kingsborough made leading from Mitchelstown towards Cahir, which road he very wisely judged was the first step to the improvement of the waste parts of his estate as well as a great publick benefit. The south side of this road limestone is found, and on the north side, the improvement was begun in a spot that included some tolerable good land, some exceeding rough and stoney, and a wet bottom where there was a bog two, three, and four feet deep; the land yielded no other profit than being a commonage to the adjoining farm, in which way it might pay the rent possibly of a shilling an acre: Twenty thousand acres by estimation joined it in the same situation which did not yield the fourth of that rent. In June I built a lime kiln which burnt twenty barrels a day, and cut, led, and stacked turf enough to keep it burning a whole twelvemonth, sketched the fences of four inclosures, making thirty-four acres and finished the first work of them, leaving the rest, and planting till winter*. I cleared two inclosures of stones; pared and burnt them; burnt eight hundred

* Where fences must be done by the day and not the perch, which will generally be the case in the beginning of an improvement in a very wild country, from the labourers being totally ignorant of taking work by measure; all that is possible should be executed in summer, especially in so wet a climate as Ireland; and when no more is paid for a day in July than in December. Some of my banks fell with the autumn rains, owing to two causes; first, the men, instead of knowing how to make a ditch were mountaineers, who scarcely knew the right end of a spade; and secondly, it proved the driest season that ever was known in Ireland.

barrels of lime, lined one inclosure, and sowed one third with wheat, a third with rye, and the other with bere, as an experiment; the other field with turneps, which from the continual drought, failed. Two cabins were built. And the whole expence in five months, including the price of all ploughing, and carriage, (the latter from the miserable cars and *garrens* at a most extravagant rate) buying timber, steward's wages, &c. amounted to one hundred and fifty pounds. The moment the neighbours understood the works were at an end, some of them offered me ten shillings an acre for the land to take it as it was, which is just eleven per cent. for the money, but I could have got more. The following were the only data gained: lime burnt for fivepence a barrel. Paring with the grass in stony land 30 s. to 40 s. an acre, and done by the plough at eight shillings much better, burning and spreading the ashes depends on weather, one piece cost above twenty shillings an acre, the other not five, but on an average I should calculate it at ten shillings. The whole operation may be very well done with the plough at twenty shillings. Clearing from stones and carting away, various; I found a very stoney piece could be cleared at twelve shillings an acre. A single ditch seven feet broad, and from three to five deep, the bank nine feet high from the bottom of the ditch, cost one shilling and sixpence; but this expence would have lessened when they were more accustomed to it: consequently a double fence with a space between left for planting, three shillings.

My design was to purchase a flock of mountain sheep in the following spring, and keep them through the summer in the mountains, but folding them every night in the improvement, in which work I could have instructed the people, and when once they had seen the benefit I do not think the practice would ever have been lost. To have provided plenty of turneps for their winter support, and improved the breed by giving them some better tups, but to have done this gradually in proportion as their food improved. Turneps to be for some years the only crop, except small pieces by way of trial. To have laid down the land to grass after a proper course of turneps in the manner and with the seeds I practised in Hertfordshire, which would have shewn what that operation is. There is not a complete meadow in the whole country. To have proportioned the sheep to the turneps at the rate of from twenty to thirty an acre according to the goodness of the crop: there is a power in such waste tracts of keeping any number in summer; the common people keep them all the year round on the mountains. The annual product of the improved land is in this system very easily ascertained. Suppose only twenty * sheep per acre, and no more than fifteen lambs from them, worth two shillings and sixpence each, it is thirty seven shillings and sixpence, and the twenty fleeces at one shilling make fifty-seven shillings and sixpence: about three pound therefore may be reckoned the lowest value of an acre of turneps at first; but as successive crops on the same land improve greatly, they would winter more than twenty, and both lambs and wool be more valuable, so that from a variety of circumstances I have attended to in that country, I am clear the common value of the turneps might be carried to four pounds, and in the course of a few years perhaps to five pounds an acre. And to state the expence of such an improvement completely finished at ten pounds an acre, including every article whatever; three crops of turneps amply repay the whole, and the future produce or rent of the land, neat profit. This would be twenty shillings an acre; twenty-five shillings are commonly paid for much worse land. The real fact of such improvements is a landlord's accepting an estate gratis, or at least paying nothing but trouble for it. Nearly such conclusions must be drawn from lord Altamont's mountain works, of which an account is given in the minutes. I should remark that the people I employed, though as ignorant as any in the kingdom, and had never seen a turnep hoe, hoed the turneps when I shewed them the manner, very readily, and though not skilfully, well enough to prove their docility would not be wanting; it was the same with the paring mattock, and the Norfolk turnep sower. They very readily execute orders, and seem to give their inclination to it.

There are several reasons which make these improvements more profitable and easy in Ireland than they are in England. There are no common rights to encounter, which are the curse of our moors. Buildings, which in England form one of the heaviest articles, are but a trifling expence; make the land good, and you will let it readily without any at all; or at least with an allowance of a roof towards a cabin; and lastly, the proportionate value of improved land compared with that of unimproved is much higher than it is with us, owing to

* It is to be noted that stock sheep are only *baited*, and that chiefly in bad weather. The winters in Ireland are much milder than in England.

the want of capital, rendering all improvements so rare, and to the common people so difficult. Three hundred pounds a year steadily employed in such an undertaking, would in a few years create an estate sufficient for the greatest undertakings: but success depends on a regular unbroken exertion, a point I found very few persons in Ireland thoroughly understood, owing to their not being accustomed to large flocks of sheep regularly depending on turneps. At the same time that this work was carrying on, his lordship, by my advice, encouraged the peasantry to take in small parts of these mountains themselves. The adjoining farms being out of lease, he had a power of doing what he pleased; I marked a road, and assigned portions of the waste on each side to such as were willing to form the fences in the manner prescribed, to cultivate and inhabit the land, allowing each a guinea towards his cabin, and promising the best land rent free for three years, and the worst for five; the eagerness with which the poor people came into this scheme, convinced me that they wanted nothing but a little encouragement to enter with all their might and spirit into the great work of improvement. They trusted to my assurance enough to go to work upon the ditches, and actually made a considerable progress. In all undertakings of this sort in Ireland it is the poor cottars, and the very little farmers, who are the best tools to employ, and the best tenants to let the land to; but this circumstance raises many enemies to the work; the better sort who have been used to tread upon and oppress are ill pleased to see any importance or independancy given to them: and the whole race of jobbing gentlemen, whose conversation for ever takes the turn of ridiculing the poverty of the cottar tenants, will always be ready with an equal cargo of falsehood and ignorance to decry and depreciate any undertaking which is not to conduce to their own benefit: if a landlord does not steadily resolve to laugh at all this trash, he had better never think of improvements.

Trifling as they have been on the irish mountains, yet are the bogs still more neglected. The minutes of the journey shew that a few gentlemen have executed very meritorious works even in these, but as they, unfortunately for the publick, do not live upon any of the very extensive bogs, the inhabitants near the latter deny the application of their remarks. Bogs are of two sorts, black and red. The black bog is generally very good, it is solid almost to the surface, yields many ashes in burning, and generally admitted to be improveable though at a heavy expence. The red sort has usually a reddish substance five or six feet deep from the surface, which holds water like a sponge, yields no ashes in burning, and is supposed to be utterly irreclaimable.

In the variety of theories which have been started to account for the formation of bogs, difficulties occur which are not easily solved: yet are there many circumstances which assist in tracing the cause. Various sorts of trees, some of them of a great size, are very generally found in them, and usually at the bottom, oak, fir, and yew the most common; the roots of these trees are fast in the earth; some of the trees seem broken off, others appear to be cut, but more with the marks of fire on them. Under some bogs of a considerable depth there are yet to be seen the furrows of land once ploughed. The black bog is a solid weighty mass which cuts almost like butter, and upon examination appears to resemble rotten wood. Under the red bogs there is always a stratum if not equally solid with the black bog, nearly so, and makes as good fuel. There is upon the black as well as the red ones a surface of that spongy vegetable mass which is cleared away to get at the bog for fuel, but it is shallow on these. Sound trees are found equally in both sorts. Both differ extremely from the bogs I have seen in England in the inequality of the surface; the irish ones are rarely level but rise into hills. I have seen one in Donnegal which is a perfect scenery of hill and dale. The spontaneous growth most common is heath; with some bog myrtle, rushes and a little sedgy grafs. As far as I can judge by roads, laying gravel of any sort, clay, earth, &c. improves the bog, and brings good grafs. The depth of them is various, they have been fathomed to that of fifty feet, and some are said to be still deeper.

From these circumstances it appears, that a forest cut, burnt, or broken down, is probably the origin of a bog. In all countries where wood is so common as to be a weed, it is destroyed by burning, it is so around the Baltick, and in America at present. The native irish might cut and burn their woods enough for the tree to fall, and in the interim between such an operation, and successive culture, wars and other intestine divisions might prevent it in those spots, which so neglected afterwards became bogs. Trees lying very thick on the ground would become

an impediment to all streams and currents, and gathering in their branches, whatever rubbish such waters brought with them, form a mass of a substance which time might putrefy, and give that acid quality to, which would preserve some of the trunks though not the branches of the trees. The circumstance of red bogs being black and solid at the bottom, would seem to indicate that a black bog has received less accession from the growth and putrefaction of vegetables after the formation than the red ones, which from some circumstances of soil or water might yield a more luxuriant surface vegetation, till it produced that mass of sponge which is now found on the surface. That this supposition is quite satisfactory I cannot assert, but the effect appears to be at least possible, and accounts for the distinction between the two kinds. That they receive their form and increase from a constant vegetation appear from their rising into hills; if they did not vegetate the quantity of water they contain would keep them on a level. The places where the traces of ploughing are found, I should suppose were once fields adjoining to the woods, and when the bog rose to a certain height it flowed gradually over the surrounding land.

But the means of improving them is the most important consideration at present. Various methods have been prescribed, and some small improvements have been effected by a few gentlemen, but at so large an expence that it is a question how far their operations answered. Here, therefore, one must call in theory to our aid from a deficiency of practice. Fortunately for a bog improver, drains are cut at so small an expence, in them, that that necessary work is done at a very moderate cost. But in spongy ones it must be repeated annually, according to the substance of the bog, and no other work attended to but sinking the drains lower and lower, by no means till you come to the bottom, (the necessity of which is a vulgar error) but till the spaces between them will bear an ox in boots. Then the surface should be leveled and burnt, and I would advise nothing to be done for a year or two but rollers as heavy as might be, kept repeatedly going over it, in order to press and consolidate the surface. Before any thing else was attempted I would see the effect of this; probably the draining and rolling would bring up a fresh surface of vegetables not seen before, in that case I should have very few doubts of finishing the work with the feeding, treading, and fold of sheep which would encourage the white clover and grasses to vegetate strongly; fortunately for any operation with sheep they can be kept safely, as they never rot in a drained bog. A very ingenious friend of mine thinks the whole might be done with sheep with little or no draining, but from viewing the bogs I am clear that is impossible. During the time of rolling and sheep feeding, the drains I would have kept clean and open, the labour of which would regularly be less and less. When the surface was so hard as to bear cars, marle, clay, gravel, or earth, might be carried on according to distance, which with the sheep feeding would convert it into good meadow: But as carting in a large improvement would probably be too expensive; I should think it worth while to try the experiment whether it would not be practicable to sink a shaft through the bog into the gravel or earth beneath it, boarding or walling, and plaistering with terrass or cement, in order to be able to draw up the under stratum, as all the chalk in Hertfordshire is raised, that is, wound up in buckets; chalk is so raised and wheeled on to the land for the price of eightpence the load of twenty bushels, and is found a cheap improvement at that price, yet the chalk drawers, as they call themselves, earn two shilling and two and sixpence each day. Whatever the means used, certain it is that no meadows are equal to those gained by improving a bog; they are of a value which scarcely any other lands rise to: in Ireland I should suppose it would not fall short of forty shillings an acre, and rise in many cases to three pounds.

S E C T I O N XII.

Cattle—Wool—Winter Food.

THE cattle in Ireland are much better than the tillage; in the management of the arable ground the Irish are five centuries behind the best cultivated of the English counties, but the moisture of the climate, and the richness of the soil, have reared, assisted with importations from England, a breed of cattle and sheep, though not equal to ours, yet not so many degrees below them as might be expected from other circumstances. The following table will shew the prices and profit on fattening bullocks and cows.

<i>Places.</i>	FAT BULLOCKS AND COWS.			
	<i>Price Bull.</i>	<i>Profit.</i>	<i>Price, Cow.</i>	<i>Profit.</i>
	l. s. d.	l. s. d.	l. s. d.	l. s. d.
Gibbstown,	10 0 0	4 0 0	5 10 0	1 15 0
Lord Beſſive,			4 2 6	1 17 6
Packenham,			4 0 0	2 0 0
Tullamore,			3 7 6	2 0 0
Shaen Caſtle,			4 10 0	1 16 0
Ballynakill,	5 10 0	2 5 0		
Mr Butler,	5 0 0	3 0 0	3 5 0	2 0 0
Belle Iſle,			3 15 0	1 11 6
Longford,			4 0 0	1 15 0
Mercra,	4 10 0	2 10 0	3 10 0	1 10 0
Holymount,			2 16 0	1 10 0
Drumoland,			3 10 0	2 0 0
Clare,	6 0 0	4 0 0	3 10 0	2 0 0
Caſtle Oliver,	5 0 0	3 8 3		
Tipperary,		4 5 0		
Cullen,	6 0 0	3 10 0	4 10 0	2 0 0
Average,	6 0 0	3 7 6	3 16 0	1 16 6

The ſystem purſued in fattening theſe beaſts is explained fully in the minutes of the journey. I think the profit remarkably ſmall. The exportation of beef, and its prices, will be given under the article *Trade*, as it forms a principal branch of the commerce of Ireland.

Places.

<i>Places.</i>	S H E E P.		<i>Places.</i>	S H E E P.	
	<i>Fleece.</i>	<i>Profit.</i>		<i>Fleece.</i>	<i>Profit.</i>
	<i>lb. qrs.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>		<i>lb. qrs.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Slaine,	4 2		Tipperary,	5 3	10 0
Tullamore,	6		Mr Moore,	7	
Shaen Castle,	4		Furness,	5 3	
Mr. Vicars	6 2		Gloster,	5 3	
Mr. Brown,		10 0	Johnstown,	5 3	
Kilfain,	5 3		Mr Head,		10 0
Prospect,	5 3		Cullen,	5 3	9
Mr. Pepper,	8		Mitchell's Town,	3	
Florence Court,	3		Averages,	5	11 0
Strokestown,	5	17 0	Averages of the Tour		
Ditto,		10 0	through the North	5	10 0
Elphin,	5	10 0	of England,		
Mercra,	4		Ditto East of England,	5 2	11 8
Mr. Brown.	4		Average of England,	5 1	10 10
Westport,	5		Average of Ireland,	5	11 0
Moniva,	4 2				
Drumoland,	5 3				
Annsgrove,	4				
Lord Donneraile,	8				
Adair,	7				

From hence the remark I often made in Ireland is confirmed, that their sheep are on an average better than those in England; the weight of the fleece is nearly equal to it, and profit rather higher, notwithstanding mutton is dearer in England; this is owing to the price of wool being so much higher in Ireland than it is with us. The following table will shew the price of it for fourteen years in both kingdoms.

WOOL IN THE FLEECE, *Ireland.*

		<i>Per stone</i>
		<i>16 lb.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>
In the year	1764	11 0
	1765	10 0
	1766	11 0
	1767	13 0
	1768	13 6
	1769	13 6
	1770	14 0
	1771	14 0
	1772*	0 0
	1773*	0 0
	1774	14 0
	1775	16 0
	1776	16 6
	1777 §	17 6
	1778	0 0
	1779	0 0
Average,	—	13 8

47 per cent. higher in Ireland than in England.

WOOL IN THE FLEECE, *Lincolnshire.*

		<i>To be reduced</i>
		<i>to stone of</i>
		<i>16 lb.</i>
		<i>s. d.</i>
In the year	1764	11 4
	1765	11 4
	1766	12 0
	1767	10 8
	1768	8 0
	1769	8 0
	1770	8 3
	1771	8 0
	1772	8 3
	1773	8 4
	1774	9 0
	1775	9 6
	1776	10 0
	1777	9 9
	1778	8 0
	1779	6 9
Average,	—	9 3

* Unsettled but very high. § Communicated by Mr Joshua Pine in the woollen trade, Dublin.

|| Communicated by Mr. James Oaks in the woollen trade Bury, Suffolk.

From hence it appears, that wool has been amazingly higher in Ireland, which accounts for the superiority in the profit of sheep. There are several reasons for their height of price, but the principal are a decrease in the quantity produced, and at the same time an encrease in the consumption. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn, as I shall shew hereafter, has occasioned the ploughing up great tracts of sheep walk; and at the same time the poor people have improved in their cloathing very much: these reasons are fully sufficient to account for that rise in the price of wool, which has brought it to be higher than the english rate. There is, however, another very powerful reason, which has had a constant operation, and which is the cheapness of spinning; in Ireland this is twopence halfpenny and threepence, but in England fivepence and sixpence. Great quantities are therefore spun into yarn in Ireland, and in that state exported to England, for the price of the labour is so low, that a yarn manufacturer can afford to give a much higher price for wool than an english one, and yet sell the yarn itself, after the expence of freight is added, as cheap as english yarn. The quantities of yarn, &c. exported, will be seen hereafter.

Many gentlemen have made very spirited attempts in improving the cattle and sheep in Ireland, so that the mixture of the English breed of cattle has spread all over the kingdom; english sheep are also extending. The minutes of the journey shew that the size of the bullocks is much encreased in the last twenty years.

But profitable as sheep are in Ireland, they are not near so as they might be, if turneps were properly attended to; and the reason why oxen and cows yield still less is the same deficiency. The mildness of the climate enables the flock-master to do with but little winter food, and this natural advantage proves an artificial evil, for it prevents those exertions, which the farmers in other countries are obliged to make, in order to support their flocks and herds. Mild as the irish climate is, the graziers in Tipperary, that is in the south of the kingdom, find nothing more profitable than turneps, though hoeing them is quite unknown, and by means of that root, so very imperfectly managed, supply Dublin with mutton in the spring, to their very great emolument. But the want of winter food is more apparent in black cattle; which upon such very rich land, ought to rise to a size which is scarce ever met with in Ireland, the usual weight being from four to eight hundred; but from four hundred and a half to five and six hundred weight, the common size on the rich grounds of Limerick; such land in England is covered with herds that weigh from ten to fifteen hundred weight each; this vast difference is owing to their being reared the two first winters with such a deficiency of food, that their growth is stunted, so that when they come upon the fine bullock land, they are of a size which can never be fattened to the weight of english oxen. The deficiency in turneps, &c. renders hay very valuable in Ireland, which occasions its being given sparingly to cattle; but if they had while young, as many turneps as they would eat in addition to their present quantity of hay, and were protected in warm yards against the wind and rain, they would rise to a size unknown at present in that kingdom. Upon this and a variety of other accounts, there is scarcely any object in its agriculture of so much importance as the introduction of that plant under the right cultivation.

S E C T I O N XIII.

Tythes—Church Lands.

OUR sister kingdom labours under this heavy burthen as well as her neighbours, to which is very much owing the uncultivated state of so great a part of her territory. The following are the minutes of the journey:

Places.

Places.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Bere.	Potatoes.	Mowing.	Sheep.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Celbridge,	7 0		5 0	5 0		5 0	
Dolleftown,	5 0		3 0	5 0		3 0	
Slaine,	7 0	5 0	3 6			3 6	
Packenham,	7 0	7 0	5 0	7 0		2 0	0 3
Tullamore,	5 0	3 0	3 0	5 0		5 0	0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Shaen Castle,	7 0	5 0	3 6	6 0		3 0	
Brownhill,	5 0	3 0	2 6	4 0		3 0	
Killfaine,	8 0	7 0	4 0	7 0		4 0	
Mount Kennedy,	10 0	4 0	4 0				
Hampton,	8 6	8 0	5 0			4 6	
Ardmagh,		5 0	3 0				
Lease, 2 s. 2 d. an acre for the whole crop.							
Shaen Castle,			2 0				
Clonleigh,		7 0	5 0		5 0	5 0	
Strokestown,	8 0	8 0	3 0	8 0			
Mercra,	8 0	6 0	4 0			3 0	
Drumoland,	5 0	3 0	2 0		10 0		0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Annsgrove,	8 0	6 0		6 0	6 0	2 0	0 3
Adair,	6 0	5 0	4 0		9 0	2 0	0 2
Ballycanvan,	5 6	5 6	5 6		5 6		0 6
Johnstown,	6 0	3 0	3 0	6 0	6 0		
Derry,	5 0	5 0	2 6	5 0	5 0	2 0	
Cullen,	8 0	7 0	4 6	7 0	11 0	2 8	
Averages,	6 9	5 4	3 8	5 11	7 2	3 3	0 2 $\frac{3}{4}$

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Hay.
Average of the Tour through the North of } England, — — — — }	5 2	3 11	3 4	1 10
Eastern ditto, — — — — }	4 8	4 0	2 8	
Average, — — — —	4 11	3 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 0	1 10
Ireland, per english acre, — — — —	4 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0

This table does not contain any proof that tythes in Ireland are unreasonably rated; but that there are abuses in the modes of levying them is undoubted: the greatest that I heard of were the notes and bonds taken in some parts of that kingdom by the proctors for the payment of tythes, which bear interest, and which are sometimes continued for several years, principal and interest being consolidated until the sum becomes too great for the poor man to pay, when great extortions are complained of, and formed the grievance which seemed most to raise the resentment of the rioters, called Whiteboys. The great power of the protestant gentlemen render their compositions very light, while the poor catholick is made in too many cases to pay severely,

severely for the deficiencies of his betters. This is a great abuse, but not to be remedied till the whole kingdom is animated with a different spirit.

The house of commons some years ago passed a vote, declaring every lawyer an enemy to his country, who in any way whatever was concerned in any case of tythe for fat bullocks and cows; and without its becoming a law was so completely obeyed, that it has regulated the business ever since; it was certainly a reproach to that parliament, that potatoes and turf were not the objects; for if any thing called for so violent an exemption, it was certainly the potatoe garden and fuel of the poor cottar.

No object in both the kingdoms can well be of greater importance than a fixed composition for tythe. It is a mode of payment so disagreeable in every respect to the clergy, and so ruinous to the laity, that a general public improvement would follow such a measure. In Ireland there can be no doubt but the recompence should be land, were it for no other reason but having in every parish a glebe sufficient for the ample and agreeable residence of a rector. Force by the most express penalties by statute law, the residence of the clergy, after which extend that most excellent law, which enables any bishop to expend, in a palace, offices, or domain wall, two years revenues of the see, with a power of charging, by his last will, his successor with the payment of the whole of the sum to whatever uses he leaves it, who in like manner is enabled to charge his successor with three fourths, and so on; this law should be extended to parsonage houses, with this assistance, that wherever the rector or vicar proved the expenditure of two years revenue in a house, he should receive a permit from the grand jury, for expending half as much more for offices, walling, &c. and when in like manner he brought his certificate of so doing, the money to be paid him by the county treasurer in like manner as the presentment roads are done at present, not however to leave it at the option of the jury. A resident clergy spending in the parish the whole of their receipts, would in all respects be so advantageous and desirable, that it is fair the county should assist in enabling them to do it in a liberal manner. The expence would be gradual, and never amount very high, if churches, when greatly wanted, were built at the same time. If the expence was for a time considerable, still it would be laid out in a manner amply to repay it. Decent edifices rising in all parts of the kingdom, would alone, in the great business of civilization, be advantageous; it would ornament the country, as well as humanize minds, accustomed to nothing better than cabins of mud; and securing one resident gentleman of some learning and ideas in every parish of the kingdom, living on a property in which he had an interest for life, could scarcely fail of introducing improvements in agriculture and planting; the whole county would profit by such circumstances, and ought to assist in the expence. I must observe, however, that such plans should depend entirely on the clergy accepting a perpetual recompence in lieu of tythes; for as to a public expence, to introduce resident rectors, whose business, when fixed, would be an extension and severity in that tax, and prove a premium on taking them in kind to the ruin of agriculture, common sense would certainly dictate a very different expenditure of the public money. So burthen-some is this mode of payment, that where their residence is followed by tythes being paid in kind, the clergyman, who ought to be an object beloved and revered, lives really upon the ruin of all his parishioners, so that instead of giving public money to bring him into a parish, no application of those funds would be more beneficial in such a case, than to purchase his absence. If ever such plans came in agitation, it would certainly be right to establish a provision for parish clerks, to teach the children of all religions to read and write.

The revenues of the clergy in Ireland, are very considerable. Here is a list of the bishopricks with the annual value, which I have had corrected so often in the neighbourhood of each that I believe it will be found nearly exact.

l.				l.			
The Primacy per annum,	—	8,000		Brought over,	—	21,000	
Dublin,	— — — —	5,000		Derry,	— — — —	7,000	
Tuam,	— — — —	4,000		Limerick,	— — — —	3,500	
Cashel,	— — — —	4,000		Corke,	— — — —	2,700	
<hr/>				<hr/>			
Carried over,	—	21,000		Carried over,	—	34,200	

l.				l.			
Brought over				Brought over,			
Cloyne;	—	—	34,200	Elphin,	—	—	54,500
Offory,	—	—	2,500	Killala,	—	—	3,700
Waterford,	—	—	2,000	Kildare,	—	—	2,900
Down,	—	—	2,500	Raphoe,	—	—	2,600
Dromore,	—	—	2,300	Meath,	—	—	2,600
Clonfert,	—	—	2,000	Kilalloe,	—	—	3,400
Clogher,	—	—	2,400	Leighlin and Ferns,	—	—	2,300
Kilmore,	—	—	4,000				2,200
			2,600				
Carried over,							
			54,500				74,300

This total does not, however, mark the extent or value of the land which yields it. I was informed in conversation that the lands of the primacy would, if lett as a private estate, be worth near one hundred thousand a year. Those of Derry half as much, and those of Cashel near thirty thousand a year. These circumstances taken into the account will shew that seventy-four thousand pounds a year include no inconsiderable portion of the kingdom. I have been also informed, but not on any certain authority, that these fees have the patronage of an ecclesiastical revenue of above one hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year more.

S E C T I O N XIV.

Absentees.

THERE are very few countries in the world that do not experience the disadvantage of remitting a part of their rents to landlords who reside elsewhere; and it must ever be so while there is any liberty left to mankind of living where they please. In Ireland the amount proportioned to the territory is greater probably than in most other instances; and not having a free trade with the kingdom in which such absentees spend their fortunes, it is cut off from that return which Scotland experiences for the loss of her rents.

Some years ago Mr. Morris published a list of the Irish absentees, and their rentals, but as every day makes considerable alterations, it is of course grown obsolete, this induced me to form a new one, which I got corrected by a variety of persons living in the neighbourhood of many of the respective estates: in such a detail, however, of private property there must necessarily be many mistakes.

l.				l.			
Brought over,				Brought over,			
Lord Donnegal,	—	—	31,000	Mr. Stackpoole,	—	—	218,000
Lord Courtenay,	—	—	30,000	Lord Darnley,	—	—	10,000
Duke of Devonshire,	—	—	18,000	Lord Abercorn,	—	—	9,000
Earl of Milton,	—	—	18,000	Mr. Dutton,	—	—	8,000
Earl of Shelburne,	—	—	18,000	Mr. Barnard,	—	—	8,000
Lady Shelburne,	—	—	15,000	London Society,	—	—	8,000
Lord Hertford,	—	—	14,000	Lord Conyngham,	—	—	8,000
Marquiss of Rockingham,	—	—	14,000	Lord Cahir,	—	—	8,000
Lord Barrymore,	—	—	10,000	Earl of Antrim,	—	—	8,000
Lord Montrath,	—	—	10,000	Mr. Bagnall,	—	—	7,000
Lord Besborough,	—	—	10,000	Mr. Longfield,	—	—	7,000
Lord Egremont,	—	—	10,000	Lord Kenmare,	—	—	7,000
Lord Middleton,	—	—	10,000	Lord Nugent,	—	—	7,000
Lord Hilsborough,	—	—	10,000				

1.				1.			
Lord Kingfton,	—	—	7,000	Lady Charleville,	—	—	3,000
Lord Valentia,	—	—	7,000	Mr. Warren,	—	—	3,000
Lord Grandiffon,	—	—	7,000	Mr. St. George,	—	—	3,000
Lord Clifford,	—	—	6,000	Mr. John Barry,	—	—	3,000
Mr. Sloane,	—	—	6,000	Mr. Edwards,	—	—	3,000
Lord Egmont,	—	—	6,000	Mr. Freeman,	—	—	3,000
Lord Upper Offory,	—	—	6,000	Lord Newhaven,	—	—	3,000
Mr. Silver Oliver,	—	—	6,000	Mr. Welsh, (Kerry)	—	—	3,000
Mr. Dunbar,	—	—	6,000	Lord Palmerftown,	—	—	2,500
Mr. Henry Obrien,	—	—	6,000	Lord Beaulieu,	—	—	2,500
Mr. Mathew,	—	—	6,000	Lord Verney,	—	—	2,500
Lord Irnham,	—	—	6,000	Mr. Bunbury,	—	—	2,500
Lord Sandwich,	—	—	6,000	Sir George Saville,	—	—	2,000
Lord Vane,	—	—	6,000	Mrs. Newman,	—	—	2,000
Lord Dartry,	—	—	6,000	Col. Shirley,	—	—	2,000
Lord Fane,	—	—	5,000	Mr. Campbell,	—	—	2,000
Lord Claremont,	—	—	5,000	Mr. Minchin,	—	—	2,000
Lord Carbury,	—	—	5,000	Mr. Burton,	—	—	2,000
Lord Clanrickard,	—	—	5,000	Duke of Dorfet,	—	—	2,000
Lord Farnham,	—	—	5,000	Lord Powis,	—	—	2,000
Lord Dillon,	—	—	5,000	Mr. Whitehead,	—	—	2,000
Sir W. Rowley,	—	—	4,000	Sir Eyre Coote,	—	—	2,000
Mr. Palmer,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Upton,	—	—	2,000
Lord Clanbraffil,	—	—	4,000	Mr. John Baker Holroyd,	—	—	2,000
Lord Maffareen,	—	—	4,000	Sir N. Bayley,	—	—	2,000
Lord Corke,	—	—	4,000	Duke of Chandois,	—	—	2,000
Lord Portsmouth,	—	—	4,000	Mr. S. Campbell,	—	—	2,000
Lord Ashbrook,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Ashroby,	—	—	2,000
Lord Villiers,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Damer,	—	—	2,000
Lord Bellew,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Whitehead,	—	—	2,000
Sir Laurance Dundas,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Welbore Ellis,	—	—	2,000
Allen family,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Folliot,	—	—	2,000
Mr. O'Callagan,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Donellan,	—	—	2,000
General Montagu,	—	—	4,000	Mrs. Wilfon,	—	—	2,000
Mr. Fitzmaurice,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Forward,	—	—	2,000
Mr. Needham,	—	—	4,000	Lord Middlefex,	—	—	2,000
Mr. Cook,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Supple,	—	—	2,000
Mr. Annesley,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Nagles,	—	—	2,000
Lord Kerry,	—	—	4,000	Lady Raneleigh,	—	—	2,000
Lord Fitzwilliam,	—	—	4,000	Mr. Addair,	—	—	2,000
Viscount Fitzwilliam,	—	—	4,000	Lord Sefton,	—	—	2,000
Englifh Corporation,	—	—	3,500	Lord Tyrawley,	—	—	2,000
Lord Bingly,	—	—	3,500	Mr. Woodcock,	—	—	2,000
Lord Dacre,	—	—	3,000	Sir John Millar,	—	—	2,000
Mr. Murray of Broughton,	—	—	3,000	Mr. Baldwin,	—	—	2,000
Lord Ludlow,	—	—	3,000	Dr. Moreton,	—	—	1,800
Lord Weymouth,	—	—	3,000	Dr. Delany,	—	—	1,800
Lord Digby,	—	—	3,000	Sir William Yorke,	—	—	1,700
Lord Fortefcue,	—	—	3,000	Mr. Arthur Barry,	—	—	1,600
Lord Derby,	—	—	3,000	Lord Dyfart,	—	—	1,600
Lord Fingall,	—	—	3,000	Lord Clive,	—	—	1,600
Blundenheireffes,	—	—	3,000	Mr. Bridges,	—	—	1,500
				Mr.			

	l.		l.
Mr. Cavanagh, ———	1,500	Mr. Shepherd, — —	1,000
Mr. Cuperden, ———	1,500	Sir P. Dennis, — —	1,000
Lady Cunnigby, ———	1,500	Lady Dean, — —	1,000
Mr. Annesley, ———	1,500	Lord Lisburne, — —	1,000
Mr. Hauren, ———	1,500	Mr. Ralph Smith, — —	1,000
Mr. Long, ———	1,500	Mr. Ormsby, — —	1,000
Mr. Oliver Tilson, ———	1,500	Lord Stanhope, — —	1,000
Mr. Plumtree, ———	1,400	Lord Tilney, ———	1,000
Mr. Pen, — —	1,400	Lord Vere, — —	1,000
Mr. Rathcormuc, ———	1,200	Mr. Hoar, — —	1,000
Mr. Worthington, ———	1,200	Mrs. Grevill, — —	1,000
Mr. Rice, — —	1,200	Mr. Nappier, — —	1,000
Mr. Ponsonby, ———	1,200	Mr. Echlin, — —	800
General Sandford, ———	1,200	Mr. Taaf, — —	800
Mr. Bafil, — —	1,200	Mr. Alexander, — —	800
Mr. Dodwell, ———	1,200	Mr. Hamilton, — —	800
Mr. Lock, — —	1,200	Mr. Hamilton, (Longford) — —	800
Mr. Cramer, — —	1,200	Mr. William Barnard, — —	800
Mr. W. Long, — —	1,200	Sir P. Leicester, — —	800
Mr. Rowley, — —	1,200	Mr. Moreland, — —	800
Miss Mac Artney, — —	1,200	Mr. Cam, — —	700
Mr. Sabine, — —	1,100	Mr. Jonathan Lovett, — —	700
Mr. Carr, — —	1,000	Mr. Hull, — —	700
Mr. Howard, — —	1,000	Mr. Staunton, — —	700
Sir F. and Lady Lum, — —	1,000	Mr. Richard Barry, — —	700
Lord Albemarle, — —	1,000	Colonel Barrè, — —	600
Mr. Butler, — —	1,000	Mr. Ashon, — —	600
Mr. J. Pleydell, — —	1,000	Lady St. Leger, — —	600
Mrs. Clayton, — —	1,000	Sir John Hort, — —	500
Mr. Obins, — —	1,000	Mr. Edmund Burke, — —	500
Lord M ^c Cartney, — —	1,000	Mr. Ambrose, — —	500
Mr. Chichester, — —	1,000		
		Total	732,200

This total, though not equal to what has been reported, is certainly an amazing drain upon a kingdom cut off from the re-action of a free trade, and such an one as must have a very considerable effect in preventing the natural course of its prosperity. It is not the simple amount of the rental being remitted into another country, but the damp on all sorts of improvements, and the total want of countenance and encouragement which the lower tenantry labour under. The landlord at such a great distance is out of the way of all complaints, or which is the same thing of examining into, or remedying evils; miseries of which he can see nothing, and probably hear as little of, can make no impression. All that is required of the agent is to be punctual in his remittances, and as to the people who pay him, they are too often, welcome to go to the devil, provided their rents could be paid from his territories. This is the general picture. God forbid it should be universally true! there are absentees who expend large sums upon their estates in Ireland; the earl of Shelburne has made great exertions for the introduction of english agriculture. Mr. Fitzmaurice has taken every means to establish a manufacture. The bridge at Lismore is an instance of liberal magnificence in the duke of Devonshire. The church and other buildings at Belfast do honour to lord Donnegall. The church and town of Hillsborough, are striking monuments of what that nobleman performs. Lord Conyngham's expenditure in his absence in building and planting merits the highest praise, nor are many other instances wanting, equally to the advantage of the kingdom, and the honour of the individuals.

It will not be improper here to add that the amount of the pension list of Ireland, the 29th of September 1779, amounted to 84,591 l. per annum; probably therefore absentees, pensions, offices, and interest of money, amount to above A MILLION.

S E C T I O N X V.

Population.

IT is very astonishing that this subject should be so little understood in most countries; even in England, which has given birth to so many treatises on the state, causes and consequences of it, so little is known, that those who have the best means of information, confess their ignorance in the variety of their opinions. Those political principles which should long, ere this time, have been fixed and acknowledged, are disputed; erroneous theories started, and even the evidence of facts denied. But these mischievous errors usually proceed from the rage of condemnation, and the croaking jaundiced spirit, which determines to deduce publick ruin from something; if not from a king, a minister, a war, a debt, or a pestilence, from depopulation. In short, if it was not to be attributed to any thing, many a calculator would be in bedlam with disappointment. We have seen these absurdities carried to such a length as to see grave treatises published, and with respectable names to them, which have declared the depopulation of England itself to take place even in the most productive period of her industry and her wealth. This is not surprising, for there are no follies too ridiculous for wise men sometimes to patronize, but the amazing circumstance is that such tracts are believed, and that harmless politicians sigh in the very hey day of propagation, lest another age should see a fertile land without people to eat the fruits of it. Let population alone, and there is no fear of its taking care of itself, but when such fooleries are made a pretence of recommending laws for the regulation of landed property, which has been the case, such speculations should be treated with contempt and detestation; while merely speculative, they are perfectly harmless, but let them become active in parliament, and common sense should exert her power to kick the absurdity out of doors. To do justice to the irish, I found none of this folly in that kingdom; many a violent opposer of government is to be found in that country, ready enough to confess that population increases greatly; the general tenour of the information in the minutes declare the same thing.

There are several circumstances in Ireland extremely favourable to population, to which must be attributed that country being so much more populous than the state of manufacturing industry would seem to imply. There are five causes, which may be particularized among others of less consequence. First, There being no poor laws. Second, The habitations. Third, The generality of marriage. Fourth, Children not being burthensome. Fifth, Potatoes the food.

The laws of settlement in England, which confine the poor people to what is called their legal settlements, one would think framed with no other view than to be a check upon the national industry, it was, however, a branch of, and arose from those monuments of barbarity and mischief, our poor rates, for when once the poor were made, what they ought never to be considered a burthen, it was incumbent on every parish to lessen as much as possible their numbers; these laws were therefore framed in the very spirit of depopulation, and most certainly have for near two centuries proved a bar to the kingdom's becoming as populous as it would otherwise have done. Fortunately for Ireland, it has hitherto kept free from these evils, and from thence results a great degree of her present population. Whole families in that country will move from one place to another with freedom, fixing according to the demand for their labour, and the encouragement they receive to settle. The liberty of doing this is certainly a premium on their industry, and consequently to their increase.

The cabbins of the poor irish being such apparently miserable habitations, is another very evident encouragement to population. In England, where the poor are in many respects in
such

such a superior state, a couple will not marry unless they can get a house, to build which, take the kingdom through, will cost from twenty-five to sixty pounds; half the life, and all the vigour and youth of a man and woman are passed, before they can save such a sum; and when they have got it, so burthened are poor to a parish, that it is twenty to one if they get permission to erect their cottage. But in Ireland the cabin is not an object of a moment's consideration; to possess a cow and a pig is an earlier aim; the cabin begins with a hovel, that is erected with two days labour, and the young couple pass not their youth in celibacy for want of a nest to produce their young in. If it comes to a matter of calculation, it will then be but as four pounds to thirty.

Marriage is certainly more general in Ireland than in England: I scarce ever found an unmarried farmer or cottar, but it is seen more in other classes, which with us do not marry at all; such as servants; the generality of footmen and maids, in gentlemen's families, are married, a circumstance we very rarely see in England.

Another point of importance is their children not being burthened. In all the enquiries I made into the state of the poor, I found their happiness and ease generally relative to the number of their children, and nothing considered as such a misfortune as having none: whenever this is the fact, or the general idea, it must necessarily have a considerable effect in promoting early marriages, and consequently population.

The food of the people being potatoes is a point not of less importance: for when the common food of the poor is so dear as to be an object of attentive economy, the children will want that plenty which is essential to rearing them; the article of milk, so general in the Irish cabins, is a matter of the first consequence in rearing infants. The Irish poor in the Catholic parts of that country are subsisted entirely upon land, whereas the poor in England have so little to do with it, that they subsist almost entirely from shops, by a purchase of their necessaries; in the former case it must be a matter of prodigious consequence, that the product should be yielded by as small a space of land as possible; this is the case with potatoes more than with any other crop whatever.

As to the number of people in Ireland I do not pretend to compute them, because there are no satisfactory data whereon to found any computation. I have seen several formed on the hearth tax, but all computations by taxes must be erroneous, they may be below, but they cannot be above the truth. This is the case of calculating the number in England from the house and window tax. In Ireland it is still more so, from the greater carelessness and abuses in collecting taxes. There is, however, another reason, the exemptions from the hearth-money, which in the words of the act are as follow: "Those who live upon alms and are not able to get their livelihood by work, and widows, who shall procure a certificate of two justices of the peace in writing yearly, that the house which they inhabit is not of greater value than eight shillings by the year, and that they do not occupy lands of the value of eight shillings by the year, and that they have not goods or chattels to the value of four pounds*." It must be very manifest from hence, that this tax can be no rule whereby to judge of the population of the kingdom. Captain South's account is drawn from this source in the last century, which made the people 1,034,102 in the year 1695†; the number was computed by Sir W. Petty, in the year 1657 to 850,000; in 1688 at 1,200,000; and in 1767 the houses taxed were 424,046. If the number of houses in a kingdom were known, we should be very far from knowing that of the people, for the computation of four or five per house, drawn from only a thousandth part of the total, and perhaps deduced from that of a family rather than a house, can never speak the real fact. I cannot conclude this subject, without earnestly recommending to the legislature of Ireland, to order an actual enumeration of the whole people, for which purpose I should apprehend a vote of the house of commons would be sufficient. Such a measure would be attended with a variety of beneficial effects, would prevent the rise of those errors which have

* A Treatise of the Exchequer and Revenue of Ireland. By G. E. HOWARD, Esq; Vol. i. p. 90.

† Abridgement of Phil. Transf. Vol. iii. p. 66;.

been mischievous in England, and would place the great importance of Ireland to the British empire, in that truly conspicuous light in which it ought ever to be viewed, and in which it could not fail to be considered, while we have theorists, who insist that the people of England do not amount to five millions.

The common idea is, that there are something under three millions in Ireland.

S E C T I O N XVI.

Public Works—Dublin Society.

ABOUT twenty years ago Ireland instead of being burthened with a national debt, had at the end of every sessions of parliament from fifty to sixty thousand pounds, surplus revenue in the exchequer, at the disposition of parliament: this money was voted for public works. The members of the house of commons, at the conclusion of the sessions, met for the purpose of voting the uses to which this money should be applied; the greater part of it was among themselves, their friends, or dependants; and though some work, of apparent use to the public at large, was always the plea, yet under that sanction, there were a great number of very scandalous private jobs, which by degrees brought such a discredit on this mode of applying public money, that the conclusion of it, from the increase of the real expences of the publick, was not much regretted. It must, however, be acknowledged, that during this period, there were some excellent works of acknowledged utility executed, such as harbours, piers, churches, schools, bridges, &c. built and executed by some gentlemen, if not with œconomy, at least without any dishonourable misapplication; and as the whole was spent within the kingdom, it certainly was far from being any great national evil.

But of all publick works, none have been so much favoured as inland navigations; a navigation board was established many years ago for directing the expenditure of the sums, granted by parliament for those purposes, and even regular funds fixed for their support. Under the administration of this board, which consists of many of the most considerable persons in the kingdom, very great attempts have been made, but I am sorry to observe, very little completed. In order to examine this matter the more regularly, it will be proper to lay before the reader the sums which have, from time to time, been granted for these objects.

An account of money, granted for public works by parliament, or the navigation board, from 1753 to 1767, inclusive*.

	l.		l.
Newry river, - - -	9,000	Pier at Skerries, - - -	3,500
Dromgláfs colliery and navigation, -	112,218	Pier at Envir, - - -	1,870
Dromreagh, - - -	3,000	Pier at Dunleary, - - -	18,500
Lagan River, - - -	40,304	Pier at Balbriggan, - - -	5,252
Shannon River, - - -	31,500	Pier at Bangor, - - -	500
Grand Canal, - - -	73,646	Pier at Killyleagh, - - -	1,200
Blackwater River, - - -	11,000	Pier at Sligo, - - -	1,300
River Lee, - - -	2,000	Antrim River, - - -	1,359
River Barrow, - - -	10,500	Ballast-office Wall, - - -	43,000
River Sure and Waterford, - - -	4,500	Widening Dublin streets, - - -	41,986
River Nore, - - -	25,250	Trinity College, - - -	31,000
River Boyne, - - -	36,998	Baal's Bridge Limerick quays, - - -	7,773

* Common's Journal, Vol. xiv. p. 485.

	l.		l.
Corke channel harbour, - - -	6,500	Building churches, - - -	12,000
Corke Workhouse, - - -	1,500	Athlone church, - - -	476
Derry Quay, - - -	2,900	Cashel church, - - -	800
Shandon Street, Corke, - - -	1,500	Wexford church, - - -	-
Wicklow harbour, - - -	6,850	Quay at Dingle, - - -	1,000
St. Patrick's Hospital, - - -	6,000	Minsterkenry collieries, - - -	2,000
Publick Records, - - -	5,000	Marine nursery, - - -	1,000
Aqueduct Dungarvon, - - -	1,300	Road round Dublin, - - -	1,500
Soldiers childrens hospital, - - -	7,000	Dundalk, - - -	2,000
Lying-in hospital, - - -	19,300	Whale-fishery, - - -	1,000
Mercer's hospital, - - -	500	Drydock, - - -	2,000
Shannon bridge, - - -	2,000	Mills at Naul, - - -	3,498
Kilkenny ditto, - - -	9,130	Balty-castle, - - -	3,000
Corke bridges, - - -	4,000	Lord Longford, - - -	3,000
Kildare bridges, - - -	600		
St. Mark's church, - - -	2,000		717,944
St. Thomas's church, - - -	5,440		
St. Catherine's church, - - -	3,990	Or per annum, - - -	47,863
St. John's church, - - -	2,000		

This period of fifteen years, I believe was that of the surplus of the revenue, during which the objects were as various as the inclinations of those individuals who had any interest in parliament. It appears from the list, that the article of navigations swallows up the greatest proportion of it.

Sums paid out of the revenues at large for certain public works, pursuant to the several bills of supply, from 1703 to 1771, inclusive.

	l.
Navigations, collieries, docks, &c. — — — — —	379,388
To build churches, — — — — —	17,706
Parliament house, — — — — —	16,270
Dublin workhouse, south wall passages, new road and marshalsea, — — —	140,372
Hospitals, — — — — —	44,251
Trinity college, — — — — —	45,000

Also, for the following purposes during the same period.

Rewards and bounties to manufacturers, — — — — —	29,829
Linen manufacture — — — — —	180,546
Cambrick ditto, — — — — —	4,000
Whale fishery, — — — — —	1,500
Incorporated society, — — — — —	96,000
Dublin society, — — — — —	64,000
	<u>£ 1,018,862</u>

It is to be noted, however, that this account includes the disbursements neither of the navigation, nor the linen board, for it is upon record, that the grand canal alone has cost above three hundred thousand pounds, by some accounts half a million.

Granted

Granted by the navigation board only, from 1768 to 1771.

	1768,	1769,	1770,	1771.	Total.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
Newry canal,	2,216	130		88	2,434
Drumglafs navigation,	1,971	244	2,151	1,200	5,566
Barrow navigation,			3,000	100	3,100
Shannon navigation,	4,162	162	3,336		7,660
Grand canal,	550	1,280	755	2,000	4,585
Boyne navigation,	2,143	2,860	2,000	2,504	9,507
Fergus navigation,	500		350		850
	11,542	4,676	11,592	5,892	33,702

Incomplete as these data are, we find from them, that great sums of money have been granted for inland navigations, and are to this day given for the same purpose; let us therefore enquire how this money has been expended, and what has been the effect of it.

I made some enquiries, and travelled many miles to view some of the navigations, and the only one which appeared to me really completed, is the canal from the town of Newry to the sea, on which I saw a brig of eighty or one hundred tons burthen. The same canal is extended farther than that town, but stops short of the great object for which it was begun and made, viz. the Drumglafs and Dungannon collieries; this may therefore be classed as incomplete relative to the object, but as Newry is a place of considerable trade, finishing it so far has merit. The great design was to furnish Dublin with irish coals, which was probably feasible, for the seams of coals in those collieries are asserted to be of such a thickness, and goodness, as proved them more than equal to the consumption of half a dozen such cities as Dublin; but two great difficulties were to be overcome: first, to make the navigation so, that all land carriage might be saved, which was properly a publick work; and secondly, to work the collieries, which was properly private business, but from the utter deficiency of capital in the hands of the individuals concerned, could never have been done without public assistance. To get over these difficulties, parliament went very eagerly into the business; they granted so liberally to the canal, that I think it has been finished to within two or three miles of the collieries; at the same time a private company was formed for working the mines, to whom considerable grants were made to enable them to proceed. The property in the works changed hands several times; among others, the late archbishop of Tuam (Ryder) was deeply concerned in them, entering with great spirit into the design; but what with the impositions of the people employed; the loss of some that were able and honest; the ignorance of others; and the jobbing spirit of some proprietors, parliament, after granting enormous sums, both to the canal and collieries, had the mortification, instead of seeing coals come to Dublin, nothing but gold sent from Dublin, to do that which fate seemed determined should never be done, and so in despair abandoned the design to the navigation board, to see if their lesser exertions would effect what the mightier ones had failed in. A Mr. Dularte, an italian engineer, and very ingenious architect, has had for a few years the superintendence of the works, but the temper of the nation has been so soured by disappointments, that he has not the support which he thinks necessary to do any thing effectual.

The

The following Table of the Import of Coal to Ireland, will shew the Importance of the Object.

Tons.			Tons.		
In the year	1764	161,970	In the year	1771	182,973
	1765	185,927		1772	211,438
	1766	186,612		1773	186,057
	1767	172,276		1774	189,237
	1768	185,554		1775	203,403
	1769	171,323		1776	217,938
	1770	197,135		1777	240,893
Average of seven years	—	180,113	Average of seven years	—	204,566

From this table it appears, that not only the quantity itself is great, but that it is a very rising import, owing to the increase of Dublin, which has arose with the increasing prosperity of the kingdom.

The little effect of all attempts to supply Dublin with irish coals will be seen by the following table of the bounties paid for that purpose.

l. s. d.			l. s. d.		
In the year	1761	107 15 6	In the year	1770	169 11 4
	1762	220 3 10		1771	105 4 10
	1763	125 14 9		1772	113 11 0
	1764	218 19 3		1773	209 11 8
	1765	135 13 3		1774	204 7 2
	1766	81 13 0		1775	213 14 4
	1767	75 4 0		1776	86 0 0
	1768	150 18 4		1777	88 0 0
	1769	164 15 4			

Before I entirely dismiss this undertaking, I cannot but remark, that nothing can more clearly prove the amazing want of capital in Ireland than the present state of these works. The navigation is complete except two or three miles; I will venture to assert, that parliament would grant the money for finishing it without hesitation, provided men of undoubted substance engaged for working the collieries at their own expence: we may therefore assert, there is water carriage from some of the finest seams of coal in the world, and at a very slight depth, directly into the heart of the second market in the british dominions, with the advantage of a parliamentary bounty per chaldron on their import into Dublin. Yet, with all these advantages, nobody has capital enough to undertake the work. This fact seems to call also for another observation. I remember in the english house of commons, in the session 1777-8, when the friends of the irish trade bills urged, that the want of capital in Ireland was such that she could never rival the manufactures of Great Britain: it was replied, that english capitals would go over to do it for them;—but what I have just recited, proves that this remark is perfectly unfounded. If capitals were so readily moved from one country to another, the Drumglash collieries would have attracted them, especially as an interest for ever is to be purchased in them; but the fact is, that removeable capitals are in the hands of men who have been educated, and perhaps have made them *locally* in some trade or undertaking which they will not venture to remove. Prejudice and habit govern mankind as much even as their interest, so that no apprehension can be so little founded as that of a country losing the capital she has made, by transferring it into another for greater seeming advantages in trade. But this point I shall have occasion hereafter to dwell more particularly on.

The grand canal, as it has been ridiculously termed, was another inland navigation which has cost the publick still greater sums. The design, as the maps of Ireland shew, was to form a communication by water between Dublin and the Shannon by this cut, most of the way through the immense bog of Allen. The former plan of bringing coals to Dublin was a very wise one, but this of the grand canal had scarcely any object that seemed to call for such an exertion. If the country is examined, through which the intended canal was to pass, and also that through which the Shannon runs, it will be found, considering its extent, to be the least productive for the Dublin market, perhaps of the whole kingdom. Examine Leitrim, Roscommon, Longford, Galway, Clare, Limerick, and those parts of West Meath and Kings, which the line of the canal and the Shannon lead through, there are scarcely any commodities in them for Dublin. Nay, the present bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, proves to a demonstration, that the quantity of corn raised in all these counties for that market is contemptible: What other products are there? Raw wool takes another direction, it goes at present from Roscommon to Corke. Manufactures in that line are very insignificant; there are some in Galway, but the ports of Limerick and Galway are perfectly sufficient for the small exportation of them. There remains nothing but turf; and who at Dublin would burn that while Whitehaven coals are at the present price?

Most of the inland navigations in England have been executed with private funds; the interest paid by the tolls—one strong reason for this mode, is the prevention of unnecessary and idle schemes; the manufactures must be wrought, or the products raised, and feel the clog of an expensive carriage before private persons will subscribe their money towards a cheaper conveyance; in which case, the very application to parliament is generally proof sufficient that a canal ought to be cut. Have something to carry before you, seek the means of carriage. I will venture to say, that if the grand canal was entirely complete, the navigation of it, including whatever the country towns took from Dublin, would prove of such a beggarly account, that it would then remain a greater monument of folly if possible, than at present. Some gentlemen I have talked with on this subject, have replied *it is a job; 'twas meant as a job, you are not to consider it as a canal of trade but as a canal for publick money*; but even this, though advanced in Ireland, is not upon principle. I answer that something has been done, fourteen miles with innumerable locks, quays, bridges, &c. are absolutely finished, though only for the benefit of eels and skating: Why throw this money away? Half what these fourteen miles have cost would have finished the Newry canal, and perfected the Dungannon collieries. Admit your argument of the job; I feel its weight; I see its force; but that does not account for the sums actually expended. Might not the same persons have plundered the public to the same amount, in executing some work of real utility; from which something else might have resulted than disgrace and ignominy to the nation?

As to the other navigations, there is in general this objection to be made to them all, however necessary they might be, they are useless for want of being completed: three fourths are only begun. The gentlemen in the neighbourhood of them have had interest enough in the navigation board to get a part only voted, and from the variety of undertakings going on at the same time, and all for the same reason incomplete, the public utility has been more trifling from all, than from a single one finished. Sorry I am to say, that a history of public works in Ireland would be a history of jobs, which has and will prove of much worse consequence, than may be at first apparent: it has given a considerable check to permitting grants of money. Administration seeing the uses to which it has been applied, have viewed these misapplications, as they term them, of the public money with a very jealous eye. They have curtailed much: until another very questionable measure, the bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin demanded so much as to leave nothing for jobs of another sort; that measure may be repealed, and the money applied to it will be at the disposal of parliament, either for the common purpose of government, or applicable to some national improvement of a more decisive nature; the latter may, after so many instances, be rejected for fear of jobs: how melancholy a consideration is it, that in a kingdom which from various causes had been so fortunate as to see a great portion of public treasure annually voted for public purposes, so abominably misapplied, and pocketed by individuals, as to bring a ridicule and reproach upon the very idea of such grants. There is such a want of public spirit, of candour and of
care

care for the interests of posterity in such a conduct, that it cannot be branded with an expression too harsh, or a condemnation too pointed: nor less deserving of severity is it, if flowing from political and secret motives of burthening the *publick* revenues to make *private* factions the more important.

Great honour is due to Ireland for having given birth to the DUBLIN SOCIETY, which has the undisputed merit of being the father of all the similar societies now existing in Europe. It was established in 1731, and owed its origin to one of the most patriotic individuals which any country has produced, DR. SAMUEL MADAN. For some years it was supported only by the voluntary subscriptions of the members, forming a fund much under a thousand pounds a year; yet was there such a liberality of sentiment in their conduct, and so pure a love of the public interest apparent in all their transactions, as enabled them with that small fund to effect much greater things than they have done in later times since parliament has granted them regularly ten thousand pounds a sessions. A well written history of their transactions would be a work extremely useful to Ireland; for it would explain much better than any reasoning could do, the proper objects for the patronage both of the society and parliament. I shall confine myself to a few general observations. It was instituted, as their charter expresses, for the improvement of agriculture, and for many years that material object possessed by far the greatest part of their attention; but when their funds by the aid of parliament grew more considerable, they deviated so far into manufactures, (in which branch they have been continually increasing their efforts,) that at present agriculture seems to be but a secondary object with them. During the life time of that ingenious but unfortunate man, *Mr. John Wynn Baker*, his support drew so many friends of agriculture to their meetings, that the premiums in its favour were very numerous; since his death, the nobility and gentry not having the same inducement to attend the transactions of the society, they were chiefly directed by some gentlemen of Dublin, who understand fabrics much better than lands, and being more interested in them, they are attended to, perhaps, in too exclusive a manner. It would be tedious to enter into an examination of many of their measures, there are some, however, which demand a few remarks.

In order to encourage the manufacture of irish woollen cloths, and irish silks, the society have two warehouses*, in one of which silk is sold on their account, wholesale and retail, and in the other cloth; both are sent to them by the weaver, whose name is written on the piece, and the price per yard on it: nothing but ready money is taken; the stock of silks generally amounts to the value of twelve or thirteen thousand pounds in hand; and of woollens to ten or eleven thousand more; and the expences in rent and salaries of these warehouses amount to five hundred pounds a year each. Call the stock twenty-five thousand pounds at six per cent. the total expence of this measure is just two thousand five hundred pounds a year; or four times over the whole revenue of the society for the encouragement of arts, manufactures, and commerce at London. I have examined their sales in the weekly returns published, and find that from june 23, 1777, to february 7, 1778, their average weekly receipt was

		l.
	Silk	150
	Wool	339
Or per annum,	Silk	7,800
	Wool	17,628

as the society give a premium of 3l. per cent. on all *the Irish wrought silk bought in the kingdom by wholesale for the purpose of retailing, that is above four shillings a yard*, it will help us to form an idea of the silk manufacture. From the first of june 1776, to the first of june 1777, the amount was 34,023l. 8s. 2d. including Corke, Limerick, Belfast, &c. and they paid six hundred and fifty pounds premium on it, from hence we find that their own silk sales must be a large proportion of the wholesale in Dublin. This has been the greatest exertion of the Dublin Society of late years.

* The woollen warehouse was opened May 29, 1773; that for silk Feb. 18, 1765.

The intention of the measure is evidently to take the weavers, both of silk and wool, out of the hands of mercers and drapers, and let their manufactures come to market without any intermediate profit on them. There is one effect certain to result from this, which is taking a great part of the ready money custom from the draper and mercer, which being the most beneficial part of their trade, is to all intents and purposes laying a heavy tax on them: now upon every principle of common sense as well as commerce, it will appear a strange mode of encouraging a manufacture to lay taxes upon the master manufacturers. But all taxes laid upon a tradesman in consequence of his trade, must be drawn back in the sale of his commodities, and this tax must be so as well as others; whatever he does sell must be so much the dearer, or he can carry on no trade at all; here therefore is a fresh tax, that of enhancing the prices paid by all who do not buy with ready money, a very great majority of the whole: the dearer a commodity is the less is consumed of it, so the consumption on credit is undoubtedly lessened, in order that those who have ready money in their hands may be served something the cheaper: here is a manifest and self evident mischief, in order to attain a very doubtful and questionable benefit.

Is there under the sun, an instance of a manufacture made to flourish by such measures? Master manufacturers with that vigour, attention, skill and invention, which are the result of a profitable business, are in all parts of the world, the very soul of prosperous factories. It is their profit which animates them to those spirited exertions, upon which the advance of manufactures depends. If the Dublin society's conduct is right in part it is right in the whole, which would be attracting *all* the demand to their own warehouses; in which case there would not be a mercer or draper left in Dublin. Their committees, and gentlemen, and weavers, may choose and pay clerks, and discharge their rent, but where are the directors of finer factories to come from? Where the men of taste who are to invent? Where the quickness and sagacity to mark and follow the caprice of fashion? Are these to come from weavers? Absurd the idea! It is the active and intelligent master that is to do all this. Go to the weavers in Spitalfields, and see them mere tools directed by their masters. Go to any other factory upon earth, and see what would become of it if the heads were considered as useless, and rivalled in their profits with publick money. If the manufacture is of such a sickly growth, that it will not support the master as well as the man, it is not worth a country's notice. What is it that induces individuals to embark in a factory their capital and industry? Profit. The greater this is, the greater the capital that will be attracted; but establish a system that shall rival, lessen and destroy this profit, who will bring their capital to such a trade? And can any people be so senseless as to imagine, that a manufacture is to be encouraged by banishing capital from it?

There is another effect, which I should suppose must flow from this extraordinary idea, which is, that of raising great heart-burnings and jealousies among the trade; the drapers and mercers are not probably at all pleased with the weavers, who work for the society's warehouses; this must be very detrimental to the business at large. I may also observe, that master-manufacturers have more ways of encouraging skilful and industrious workmen, than the mere buying their goods and employing them; there are a thousand little points of favour in their power, which the society cannot practice; but how can they be inclined to such things, while steps are taken to deprive them of every workman that can do without their assistance?

Fortunately for the kingdom, it is at Dublin as in other cities, the ready money trade is by no means equal to that of credit, consequently the pernicious tendency of this measure cannot fully be seen. The drapers and mercers do and will support their trade in spite of this formidable rival, backed with a premium of two thousand five hundred pounds a year, appropriated to their ruin, in order to encourage their trade! The tendency of the measure is evidently the destruction of both the manufactures.

This is a fact, which appears so obvious, that I should apprehend it must have done mischief, in direct proportion to the amount of the operation. It is extremely difficult to discover facts that can prove this from the nature of the case; no wonder if the import of foreign silk and woollens should have increased from such a measure. Let us examine this point.

Account

Account of Silk imported into Ireland in Twenty-six Years*.

Years.	Manufactured.	Raw.	Ribband.	Years.	Manufactured.	Raw.	Ribband.
	lb.	lb.	lb.		lb.	lb.	lb.
1752	14,654	53,705	160	1765	21,582	54,655	1,543
1753	13,360	60,155	184	1766	17,260	54,418	1,724
1754	15,441	42,665	361	1767	19,104	46,067	1,527
1755	9,874	43,947	265	1768	23,446	52,062	1,646
1756	13,715	32,948	140	1769	17,522	57,001	1,401
1757	7,709	41,354	17	1770	20,581	44,273	1,183
1758	17,292	51,303	271	1771	14,095	38,107	650
1759	13,836	44,493	118	1772	15,804	33,611	644
1760	21,878	55,905	366	1773	17,379	53,662	378
1761	14,815	51,348	180	1774	14,665	38,811	553
1762	21,054	70,292	306	1775	13,658	29,578	355
1763	17,741	41,021	469	1776	17,326	41,594	717
1764	23,511	36,581	746	1777	24,187	54,043	1,574
Average,	15,760	48,132	275	Average,	18,200	45,990	1,068

Considering the extent of the period, I will not assert that this table is very decisive; whatever conclusions, however, that are to be drawn from it, are as far as they go *against* the late measures that respect the irish silk manufacture, for the imported fabricks have *increased*, while the raw material worked up in Ireland has *decreased*; a proof that the manufacture has not been of any very healthy growth.

An Account of the Import of Woollen Goods for Fourteen Years †.

Years.	New Drapery.	Old Drapery.	Years.	New Drapery.	Old Drapery.
	Yards.	Yards.		Yards.	Yards.
1764	248,062	220,828	1771	362,096	217,395
1765	239,365	176,161	1772	314,703	153,566
1766	313,216	197,316	1773	387,143	210,065
1767	325,585	189,882	1774	461,407	282,317
1768	337,558	198,664	1775	465,611	281,379
1769	394,553	207,117	1776	676,485	290,215
1770	462,499	249,666	1777	731,819	381,330
Average,	331,548	205,662	Average,	485,609	259,466
			Last 7 years,	485,609	259,466
			Former ditto,	331,548	205,662
			Increase,	154,061	53,804

* MS. Communicated by Mr. Forster.

† Parl. Rec. of Exp. and Imp. MS.

The increase is so great that it might justify conclusions against all the late measures, none of which are near so much to be condemned as the establishment of the society's warehouse.

Import of Linen, Cotton, and Silk, British Manufacture.

			Value.				Value.
			l.				l.
In the year	1764	—	18,858	In the year	1771	—	20,282
	1765	—	18,037		1772	—	14,081
	1766	—	15,557		1773	—	20,472
	1767	—	12,710		1774	—	21,611
	1768	—	16,021		1775	—	24,234
	1769	—	13,402		1776	—	30,371
	1770	—	20,907		1777	—	45,411
Average of seven years			— 16,784	Average of seven years			— 25,208

When it is considered, that the undoubted mischief of this system is not submitted to as an unavoidable evil, but purchased with great expence, attention and anxiety; and that the two thousand five hundred a year thus bestowed, as the price of so much harm, might be expended in objects of great consequence to the publick, it will surely seem unpardonable in parliament to appear so little solicitous for the welfare of their manufactures, as to give ten thousand pounds a session, at large, and not limit the application of such a liberal grant to purposes of certain advantage. And it surely behoves the society itself to recommit this matter; to extend their views; to consider the principles upon which all the manufactures in the world are carried on, supported and increased; and if they see no vestige of such a policy, as they patronize and practice, in any country that has pushed her fabricks to a great height, at least to be dubious of this favourite measure, and not persist in forcing it at such a considerable expence.

Another measure of the society, which I hinted at before, is to give three per cent. to the wholesale purchasers of irish silks for retailing, and this costs them above six hundred pounds a year. Upon what sound principles this is done I cannot discover; if the mercers have not a demand for these irish silks, five times the society's premiums will not make them purchasers; on the contrary, if they have a demand for them, they most undoubtedly will buy them without any premium for so doing. It appears therefore to me, that the only end which such a measure could answer, was to discover the absolute insignificance of the whole irish silk manufacture, which is proved through the whole kingdom to be to the amount only of thirty-four thousand pounds a year, of four shillings a yard and upwards; but the repetition of the premium shews that this was not the design. Of all other fabricks this is the most improper for Ireland, and for any dependant country; it is an absolute manufacture of taste, fancy and fashion; the seat of empire will always command these, and if Dublin made superior silks, they would be despised on comparison with those of London; we feel something of this in England from France, being the source of most of the fashions in Europe. To force a silk manufacture in Ireland is therefore to strive against whim, caprice, fashion, and all the prejudices of mankind, instead of which, it is these that become a solid support of fabricks when wisely set on foot. There are no linens fashionable in England, but the irish people will not wear any other, and yet galic hollands are asserted to be much stronger. Should not the irish, therefore, bend their force to drive the nail that will go, instead of plaguing themselves with one which never will. This is a general observation, but the particular measure of the society, supposing the object valuable, is perfectly insignificant, it is throwing away six hundred pounds a year to answer no one purpose whatever.

The society offers a great number of other premiums for manufactures, many of which are very exceptionable, but it would take up too much room to be particular in an examination of them. In agriculture they have a great number offered to *poor* renters separately.

Upon

Upon the general spirit of these I have to remark, that the design of encouraging poor renters is very meritorious, and does honour to the humanity of the society; but from a great variety of instances which were pointed out to me, as I travelled through the kingdom, I have too much reason to believe, that abuses and deceptions are numerous, that the society has actually paid premiums per acre, to great numbers of claimants, who have, as soon as they received the money, let the land run waste again, so that no person could distinguish it from the adjoining bog or moor. There are two reasons why these premiums must very much fail of their wished-for success; the extreme difficulty, not to say impossibility, of ascertaining the merit of the candidates, or the facts alledged; and the utter impossibility that such very poor fellows should work any improvements worthy the society's patronage. The London society have found, by repeated experience, their utter incapacity of doing any thing by weight of money, in bounties per acre for any object; I am convinced the same fact will hold true with that of Dublin; the funds even of the latter are much too inconsiderable for this mode. The object ought to be to inspire those men, who have the necessary capital to employ it in the way the society thinks for the publick good: the premiums should be honorary but considerable, with that degree of variety and novelty that should attract the attention of men of fortune.

But nothing was ever better imagined, than the plan of fixing an english farmer in the kingdom, so much at the society's expence, as to give them a power over a part of his management. This was the case with Mr. Baker; and it was also a very wise measure to enable him to establish a manufactory of husbandry implements. The only errors in the execution of this scheme were: First, Not supporting him much more liberally, when it was found that his private fortune was too inconsiderable to support himself and family; had he been easy in his private circumstances, his husbandry would have been perfect. Second, The not directing him in the choice of his farm, which was not a proper one for an example to the kingdom, it should have been in some mountainous tract, where there was bog, and tolerable soil. Third, In permitting him to make and publish small and trifling experiments, objects of curiosity to a private speculatist, but quite unworthy of the Dublin society; besides, such a person should be brought to establish what a previous experience has convinced him is right, not to gain his own knowledge at the society's expence.

The scheme, had it, in the case of Mr. Baker, been executed in this manner, or was such an one now to be adopted, would tend more to spreading a true practical knowledge of agriculture than any other that could be executed; and the union of a manufactory of implements unites with it perfectly. To inform a backward country of right systems has its use, but it is very weak compared with the actual practice and exhibition of it before their eyes; such an object in full perfection of management, with an annual publication of the result, simply related, would tend more to the improvement of the national husbandry than any other system. The farm should not be less than five hundred acres, it should have a tract of bog and another of mountain; one thousand pounds should be applied in the necessary buildings; five hundred pounds immediately in fences; one thousand pounds a year for five years in stocking it; one thousand pounds for establishing a manufactory of implements, not to be sold but given away by the society as premiums; five hundred pounds a year allowed to the superintendant for his private emolument, that no distresses of his own might interfere with the publick views; and in addition, to animate his attention, ten per cent. upon the gross product of the farm. The society to delegate their power over it to a select committee, and no member to be eligible to that committee, who had not in his own occupation one hundred acres of land, or more. The first expence would be seven thousand five hundred pounds, and the annual charge five hundred pounds; this would be an effective establishment that could not fail, if the manager was properly chosen. He should be an active, spirited man, not so low as to have no reputation to lose, but at the same time more a practical than a speculative farmer, and who could teach the common irish with his own hands, the operations he wished them to perform. The annual charge of only one of the society's warehouses is equal to this, and the capital appropriated to it near twice as large; how much more beneficial would this application of the money be?

Relative

Relative to the premiums for the encouragement of agriculture, I shall venture to hint some which I apprehend would be of great advantage; and by throwing them into the words common in offering premiums, my meaning will be better explained.

1. TURNIP HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the person who shall cultivate the most land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Turneps. 2. Barley or oats. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The turneps to be twice thoroughly hand hoed and eaten where they grow by sheep, and to make a full report of the cultivation, expences, produce, and effect of the turneps on the sheep fed, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription. Accounts to be delivered in the year 1784.

2. For the next greatest quantity of land, not less than ten acres so cultivated, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with a suitable inscription.

3. To the person who shall in the year 1780, have the most acres of turneps, not less than twenty, twice thoroughly land hoed; to report the effect, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription.

4. For the next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with a suitable inscription.

5. BEAN HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the person who shall cultivate the most land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Beans. 2. Wheat. 3. Beans. 4. Wheat. The beans to be in rows, eighteen inches asunder, and three times thoroughly hoed, and to report the effect to the society. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with an inscription. Accounts to be laid in in the year 1784.

6. For the next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with an inscription.

7. To the person who shall cultivate the greatest quantity of land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Beans. 2. Barley or oats. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The beans as before, and to report the effect. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with an inscription.

8. Next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres. The value of 50l. with an inscription.

9. FLAX HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the person who shall cultivate the most land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Turneps. 2. Flax. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The turneps to be twice hand hoed, and the flax to be seeded, stacked and threshed like corn, and then watered and dressed, and to report the effect to the society. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred and fifty pounds, with a suitable inscription.

10. For the next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres. The plate eighty pounds. Accounts to be delivered in in 1784.

11. MOUNTAIN IMPROVEMENT, 1779. To the person who shall improve the largest tract of mountain land, not less than one hundred acres, at present waste, and not let at one shilling an acre, and make a full report of the cultivation, expences and produce to the society in the year 1787. A piece of plate of the value of five hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription.

Conditions.
The improvement at the time of the certificates being signed to be completely inclosed; to be divided into fields of not more than ten acres each; the fences to be either walls in mortar, or double ditches well planted with white thorns and timber, the gates, piers, &c. to be perfect. The land to have had four crops in the following course: 1. Turneps. 2. Oats, bere or rye. 3. Turneps. 4. Oats, the turneps twice hand hoed, and eaten when green by sheep, and one half of the improvement to be in grass laid down with the last crop of oats. Not less than one hundred barrels of lime per acre to have been spread on the whole. An orchard of two acres to be well planted; and a fally garden of as much. One good farm house, with a barn, stable, cowhouse, &c. and four cabbins to be built and inhabited, the whole of stone or mortar, and covered with slate. And the tract to be actually let on lease to one or more tenants, not occupying any other land, and residing on the premises. Whoever intends to be claimants to give notice to the society that they may appoint inspectors.

12. To

12. To the next greatest quantity, not less than sixty acres, on the like conditions, the plate three hundred pounds.

13. **BOG IMPROVEMENT, 1779.** To the person who shall drain and improve into rich meadow, the greatest quantity of bog, not less than 50 acres, being part of a bog not less than 100 acres, and make a full report to the society of the mode, expences and produce in the year 1788, a piece of plate of the value of 400l. with an honorary inscription. The society leaves to the claimant to pursue whatever mode he pleases, but the land must have a good house, cowhouse and necessary offices, with two cabins built all of stone and slate, and the improvement let to resident tenants occupying no other land.

14. For the next greatest quantity, not less than thirty acres, the plate two hundred pounds.

15. **PLANTING.** To the person who shall inclose with a wet wall, not less than six feet high, and plant, the greatest quantity of land, not less than fifty acres, in the year 1780, a piece of plate of the value of four hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription. The trees to be ash, elm, poplar, beech, larch, scotch, spruce or silver fir, to be not more than four years old, nor more than four feet asunder, and in the centre of every such space, acorns to be sown and covered.

16. For the next greatest quantity, not less than thirty acres, the plate two hundred pounds.

17. To the person who shall in the year 1780, plant and fence so as to be completely secured from cattle, the greatest quantity of land with the common basket fallow in beds six feet broad, and four rows on each bed, not less than thirty acres, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription.

18. For the next greatest quantity, not less than fifteen acres, the plate fifty pounds. All to be continued by previous notice, every year when once they came into turn.

I have to observe upon them, that the courses of crops here recommended can only have fair justice done them in the infancy of the husbandry by gentlemen, or men of considerable capital; consequently, it is the wisest to offer a premium that shall attract their notice, and not vary it for lesser tenants, who at first would be incapable of executing the conditions. The mountain and bog improvement are great objects, and therefore well deserve ample encouragement; I have added the condition of *being let* by way of satisfactory proof, that the improvement is completely finished, for if it was kept in hand, it would be a matter of opinion and valuation, which is never satisfactory. The planting premiums would in all probability have many claimants. The stone wall is essential; planting without preservation is trifling.

As to the nature of the premiums, I recommend, viz. pieces of plate, I think they would have a greater effect than any thing else; money would be out of sight and forgotten; a medal that has been prostituted to all sorts of trifles, would be a contemptible reward for such exertions, but a handsome cup, vase, tray, table, &c. would be always in sight, and on every occasion a subject for conversation to animate others to gain the same. The experience of a few years would prove whether the quantities of land required were too high or not. An inspector to view all proceedings would be absolutely necessary, whose reward should be devised in such a manner as to secure his integrity; unless some gentlemen of considerable consequence in the neighbourhood took that office voluntarily upon them.

Some premiums upon these principles, united with such a plan as I have stated for the establishment of a farm, would be attended with all the advantage to the national agriculture, in the power of any society to effect. The expence would not be so large as not to leave a considerable portion of the society's funds for trade and manufactures, and consequently to please those who wished such objects not to be neglected.

S E C T I O N XVII.

Manners and Customs.

*Quid leges sine moribus,
Vana proficiunt!*

IT is but an illiberal business for a traveller, who designs to publish remarks upon a country, to sit down coolly in his closet and write a satire on the inhabitants. Severity of that sort must be enlivened with an uncommon share of wit and ridicule, to please. Where very gross absurdities are found, it is fair and manly to note them; but to enter into character and disposition is generally uncandid, since there are no people but might be better than they are found, and none but have virtues which deserve attention, at least as much as their failings; for these reasons this section would not have found a place in my observations, had not some persons, of much more flippancy than wisdom, given very gross misrepresentations of the irish nation. It is with pleasure, therefore, that I take up the pen, on the present occasion; as a much longer residence there enables me to exhibit a very different picture; in doing this, I shall be free to remark, wherein I think the conduct of certain classes may have given rise to general and consequently injurious condemnation.

There are three races of people in Ireland, so distinct, as to strike the least attentive traveller: these are the spanish which are found in Kerry, and a part of Limerick and Corke, tall and thin, but well made, a long visage, dark eyes, and long black lank hair. The time is not remote when the spaniards had a kind of settlement on the coast of Kerry, which seemed to be overlooked by government. There were many of them in Queen Elizabeth's reign, nor were they entirely driven out till the time of Cromwell. There is an island of Valentia on that coast, with various other names, certainly spanish. The scotch race is in the north, where are to be found the features which are supposed to mark that people, their accent, and many of their customs. In a district, near Dublin, but more particularly in the baronies of Bargie and Forth in the county of Wexford, the saxon tongue is spoken without any mixture of the irish, and the people have a variety of customs mentioned in the minutes, which distinguish them from their neighbours. The rest of the kingdom is made up of mongrels. The milefian race of irish, which may be called *native*, are scattered over the kingdom, but chiefly found in Connaught and Munster; a few considerable families, whose genealogy is undoubted, remain, but none of them with considerable possessions, except the O'Briens and Mr. O'Neil, the former have near twenty thousand pounds a year in the family; the latter half as much, the remnant of a property once his ancestors, which now forms six or seven of the greatest estates in the kingdom. O'Hara and M'Dermot are great names in Connaught, and O'Donoghue a considerable one in Kerry; but I heard of a family of O'Driscals in Corke, who claim an origin prior in Ireland to any of the milefian race.

The only divisions which a traveller, who passed through the kingdom, without making any residence, could make, would be into people of considerable fortune and mob. The intermediate division of the scale, so numerous and respectable in England, would hardly attract the least notice in Ireland. A residence in the kingdom convinces one, however, that there is another class in general of small fortune,—country gentlemen and renters of land. The manners, habits and customs of people of considerable fortune, are much the same every where, at least there is very little difference between England and Ireland, it is among the common people one must look for those traits by which we discriminate a national character. The circumstances which struck me most in the common irish were, vivacity and a great and eloquent volubility of speech, one would think they could take snuff and talk without tiring
till

till doomsday. They are infinitely more chearful and lively than any thing we commonly see in England, having nothing of that incivility of sullen silence, with which so many englishmen seem to wrap themselves up, as if retiring within their own importance. Lazy to an excess at *work*, but so spiritedly active at *play*, that at *hurling*, which is the cricket of savages, they shew the greatest feats of agility. Their love of society is as remarkable as their curiosity is insatiable; and their hospitality to all comers, be their own poverty ever so pinching, has too much merit to be forgotten. Pleased to enjoyment with a joke, or witty repartee, they will repeat it with such expression, that the laugh will be universal. Warm friends and revengeful enemies; they are inviolable in their secrecy, and inevitable in their resentment; with such a notion of honour, that neither threat nor reward would induce them to betray the secret or person of a man, though an oppressor, whose property they would plunder without ceremony. Hard drinkers and quarrelsome; great liars, but civil, submissive and obedient. Dancing is so universal among them, that there are every where itinerant dancing-masters, to whom the cottars pay sixpence a quarter for teaching their families. Besides the irish jig, which they can dance with a most *luxuriant* expression, minuets and country dances are taught; and I even heard some talk of cõtilions coming in.

Some degree of education is also general, hedge schools, as they are called (they might as well be termed *ditch* ones, for I have seen many a ditch full of scholars) are every to be met with where reading and writing are taught; schools are also common for men; I have seen a dozen great fellows at school, and was told they were educating with an intention of being priests. Many strokes in their character are evidently to be ascribed to the extreme oppression under which they live. If they are as great thieves and liars as they are reported, it is certainly owing to this cause.

If from the lowest class we rise to the highest, all there is gaiety, pleasure, luxury and extravagance; the town life at Dublin is formed on the model of that of London. Every night in the winter there is a ball or a party, where the polite circle meet, not to enjoy but to sweat each other; a great crowd crammed into twenty feet square gives a zest to the *agrèments* of small talk and whist. There are four or five houses large enough to receive a company commodiously, but the rest are so small as to make parties detestable. There is however an agreeable society in Dublin, in which a man of large fortune will not find his time heavy. The stile of living may be guessed from the fortunes of the resident nobility and great commoners; there are about thirty that possess incomes from seven to twenty thousand pounds a year. The court has nothing remarkable or splendid in it, but varies very much, according to the private fortune or liberality of disposition in the lord lieutenant.

In the country their life has some circumstances which are not commonly seen in England. Large tracts of land are kept in hand by every body to supply the deficiencies of markets, this gives such a plenty, that, united with the lowness of taxes and prices, one would suppose it difficult for them to spend their incomes, if Dublin in the winter did not lend assistance. Let it be considered, that the prices of meat are much lower than in England; poultry only a fourth of the price; wild fowl and fish in vastly greater plenty; rum and brandy not half the price; coffee, tea and wines far cheaper; labour not above a third; servants wages upon an average thirty per cent. cheaper. That taxes are inconsiderable, for there is no land tax, no poor rates, no window tax, no candle or soap tax, only half a wheel tax, no servants tax, and a variety of other articles heavily burthened in England, but not in Ireland. Considering all this, one would think they could not spend their incomes; they do contrive it however. In this business they are assisted by two customs that have an admirable tendency to it, great numbers of horses and servants. The excess in the latter are in the lower sort; owing, not only to the general laziness, but also to the number of attendants every one of a higher class will have; this is common in great families in England, but in Ireland a man of five hundred pounds a year feels it. As to horses the number is carried quite to a folly; in order to explain this point, I shall insert a table of the demesnes of many of the nobility and gentry, which will shew not only the number of horses, but of other cattle, the quantity of land they keep, and other circumstances explanatory of their country life.

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Wood.</i>	<i>Corn.</i>	<i>Turn. and Cabb.</i>	<i>Rent.</i>	<i>Labou- rers.</i>	<i>Horses.</i>	<i>Plough Oxen.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>
					1.				
Mr. Clements,	240		14		420	20	22	6	163
Col. Marley,	200		31	1½	300		8	4	40
Mr. Rowley,	700	100		3	700		90		250
Lord Conyngham,	447	120	32	3			37		44
Lord Beftive,	1600		84		2000	140	100	20	500
Mr. Gerard,	1200		64		1300		12		1300
Lord Longford,	320		32	5	300	20	26	12	100
Mr. Johnfon,	410	110	10	5	320	9	8	4	200
Dean Coote,	500		35	8	350	30	35	8	200
General Walfh,	700		71	5		50			150
Mr Brown,	300				460		8		800
Mr. Bufhe,	170	30	50	2	330		15	8	70
Lord Courtown,	300		30	7	315	30	21	12	70
General Cuninghame,	150		34		375	20	16	5	70
Lord Gosfort,	300		25	3	450	30	43	4	46
Mr. Clofe,	100		23		135	9	10		40
Mr. Lefly,	350	100	32		350	30	37	20	150
Mr. Savage,	190		35	2	250		32		40
Mr O'Niel,	733		57	17	549	40	68	24	500
Mr. Leflie,	1026	60	101		790	50	46	24	80
Sir J. Caldwell,	700	300	41	11	900				
Mr. Corry,	1000		68		900	120			500
Lord Rofs,	950	125				30	30		120
Lord Farnham,	1000	200	55	10	800	100	108	22	285
Mr. Newcomen,	400		40					18	
Mr. Mahon,	1100	100	60		840	20	30		500
Mr. Cooper,	1000	300	22	8		60	25	12	130
Mr. Brown,	370		18			10	30		300
Mr. Gore,	3300		160		2310	120	170		5000
Lord Altamont,	1500		120	6	1000	100	70	20	200
Mr. French,	1790	252	55			100	20	14	424
Mr. Trench,	1046	100	13		600	80	45	10	980
Sir Lucius O'Brien,	399	30	47		560	60	26	11	138
Mr. Fitzgerald,	3000				2000	26	54	18	1800
Mr. Aldworth,	1270	600	550	12	1010		33	16	500
Lord Donneraile,	1200	200	200	5	1500	60	54	40	400
Colonel Jepfon,	300		35		900		24		120
Mr. Gordon,	915		114		700	45	13	15	187
Mr. Jeffries,	304		20		300		32		200
Mr. Trent,	238	24	21				13	5	200
Lord Shannon,	1600	263	81		1500	132	11	36	470
Mr. Longfield,	1100		78		800	20	65	14	200
Rev. Archd. Oliver,	900		136	16	650	50	25	21	100
Mr. Herbert,	1300	780			400		18	30	300
Mr. Bateman,	250		5		250		30		60
Lord Glendour,	1000	100	55		1000		50		200
Mr. Fitzgerald,	200		23	3	200		21	8	60
Mr. Leflie,	250	50	22		230		24	6	60
Mr. Oliver,	500	100	24	10	500	50	30	10	125
Mr. Ryves,	300		25		450	6	20		300
Lord Clanwilliam,	640		34	8	600	30	40		600
Mr. Macartey,	9000				10,000	170	180	80	8000
Lord de Montalt,	1300	300				75	40	40	1500
Mr. Moore,	600		17		1155				1000
Lord Tyrone,	2100	1500	64		1200	200	36	48	400
Mr Bolton,	200		28		300	40	25	6	70
Mr. Nevill,	220	24			350		22		100
Mr. Lloyd,	200				150		12		182
Mr. Holmes,	540	49	25	15	540	40	30	14	590
Mr. Head,	450	16	27		675	20			400
Lord Kingfborough,	600	100	30	5	400	100	40		200

The intelligent reader will collect something more than mere curiosity from this table; it will necessarily strike him, that a country residence in Ireland demands a much larger quantity of land in hand than in England, from which might be deduced, if not from any thing else, how much backwarder the former is than the latter; where markets are wanting every thing must be had at home, a case stronger still in America. In England such extensive demesnes would be parks around the seats for beauty as much as use, but it is not so in Ireland; the words *deer-park* and *demesne* are to be distinguished; there are great demesnes without any parks, but a want of taste, too common in Ireland, is having a deer-park at a distance from the house; the residence surrounded by walls, or hedges, or cabbins; and the lawn enclosure scattered with animals of various sorts, perhaps three miles off. The small quantity of corn proportioned to the total acres, shews how little tillage is attended to even by those who are the best able to carry it on; and the column of turneps proves in the clearest manner, what the progress of improvement is in that kingdom. The number of horses may almost be esteemed a satire upon common sense; were they well fed enough to be useful, they would not be so numerous, but I have found a good hack for a common ride scarce in a house where there were a hundred. Upon an average, the horses in gentlemen's stables, throughout the kingdom, are not fed half so well as they are in England by men of equal fortune; yet the number makes the expence of them very heavy.

Another circumstance to be remarked in the country life is the miserableness of many of their houses; there are men of five thousand a year in Ireland, who live in habitations that a man of seven hundred a year in England would disdain; an air of neatness, order, dress, and *propreté*, is wanting to a surprizing degree around the mansion; even new and excellent houses have often nothing of this about them. But the badness of the houses is remedying every hour throughout the whole kingdom, for the number of new ones just built, or building, is prodigiously great. I should suppose there were not ten dwellings in the kingdom thirty years ago that were fit for an english pig to live in. Gardens were equally bad, but now they are running into the contrary extreme, and wall in five, six, ten, and even twenty irish acres for a garden, but generally double or treble what is necessary.

The tables of people of fortune are very plentifully spread; many elegantly, differing in nothing from those of England. I think I remarked that venison wants the flavour it has with us, probably for the same reason, that the produce of rich parks is never equal to that of poor ones; the moisture of the climate, and the richness of the soil, give fat but not flavour. Another reason is the smallness of the parks, a man who has three or four thousand acres in his hands, has not, perhaps, above three or four hundred in his deer park, and range is a great point for good venison. Nor do I think that garden vegetables have the flavour found in those of England, certainly owing to the climate; green peas I found every where perfectly insipid, and lettuce, &c. not good. Claret is the common wine of all tables, and so much inferior to what is drank in England, that it does not appear to be the same wine, but their port is incomparable, so much better than the english, as to prove, if proof was wanting, the abominable adulterations it must undergo with us. Drinking and duelling are two charges which have long been alledged against the gentlemen of Ireland, but the change of manners which has taken place in that kingdom is not generally known in England. Drunkenness ought no longer to be a reproach, for at every table I was at in Ireland I saw a perfect freedom reign, every person drank just as little as they pleased, nor have I ever been asked to drink a single glass more than I had an inclination for; I may go farther and assert that hard drinking is very rare among people of fortune; yet it is certain that they sit much longer at table than in England. I was much surprized at first going over to find no summons to coffee, the company often sitting till eight, nine, or ten o'clock before they went to the ladies. If a gentleman likes tea or coffee, he retires without saying any thing, a stranger of rank may propose it to the master of the house, who from custom contrary to that of England, will not stir till he receives such a hint, as they think it would imply a desire to save their wine. If the gentlemen were generally desirous of tea I take it for granted they would have it, but their slighting is one inconvenience to such as desire it, not knowing when it is provided, conversation may carry them beyond the time, and then if they do *trifle* over the coffee it will certainly be *cold*. There is a want of attention in this, which the ladies should remedy, if they will not break the old custom and send to the gentlemen,

which

which is what they ought to do, they certainly should have a salver fresh. I must however remark, that at the politest tables, which are those of people who have resided much out of Ireland, this point is conducted exactly as it is in England.

Duelling was once carried to an excess, which was a real reproach and scandal to the kingdom; it of course proceeded from excessive drinking; as the cause has disappeared, the effect has nearly followed: not, however, entirely, for it is yet far more common among people of fashion than in England. Of all practices a man who felt for the honour of his country, would wish soonest to banish this, for there is not one favourable conclusion to be drawn from it: as to courage nobody can question that of a polite and enlightened nation, entitled to a share of the reputation of the age; but it implies uncivilized manners, an ignorance of those forms which govern polite societies, or else a brutal drunkenness; the latter is no longer the cause or the pretence. As to the former, they would place the national character so backward, would take from it so much of its pretence to civilization, elegance and politeness of manners, that no true Irishman would be pleased with the imputation. Certain it is, that none are so captious as those who think themselves neglected or despised; and none are so ready to believe themselves either one or the other, as persons unused to good company. Captious people, therefore, who are ready to take an affront, must inevitably have been accustomed to ill company, unless there should be something uncommonly crooked in their natural dispositions, which is not to be supposed. Let every man that fights his one, two, three, or half a dozen duels, receive it as a maxim, that every one he adds to the number is but an additional proof of his being ill educated, and having vitiated his manners by the contagion of bad company; who is it that can reckon the most numerous rencontres? who but the bucks, bloods, landjobbers, and little drunken country gentlemen? Ought not people of fashion to blush at a practice which will very soon be the distinction only of the most contemptible of the people? the point of honour will and must remain for the decision of certain affronts, but it will rarely be had recourse to in polite, sensible, and well bred company. The practice among *real* gentlemen in Ireland every day declining is a strong proof, that a knowledge of the world corrects the old manners, and consequently its having ever been prevalent was owing to the causes to which I have attributed it.

There is another point of manners somewhat connected with the present subject, which partly induced me to place a motto at the head of this section. It is the conduct of juries; the criminal law of Ireland is the same as that of England, but in the execution it is so different, as scarcely to be known. I believe it is a fact, at least I have been assured so, that no man was ever hanged in Ireland for killing another in a duel: the security is such that nobody ever thought of removing out of the way of justice, yet there have been deaths of that sort, which had no more to do with *honour* than stabbing in the dark. I believe Ireland is the only country in Europe, I am sure it is the only part of the British dominions where associations among men of fortune are necessary for apprehending ravishers. It is scarcely credible how many young women, have even of late years been ravished, and carried off in order (as they generally have fortunes) to gain to appearance a voluntary marriage. These actions it is true are not committed by the class I am considering at present; but they are tried by them, and **ACQUITTED**. I think there has been only one man executed for that crime, which is so common as to occasion the associations I mentioned; it is to this supine execution of the law that such enormities are owing. Another circumstance which has the effect of screening all sorts of offenders, is men of fortune protecting them, and making interest for their acquittal, which is attended with a variety of evil consequences. I heard it boasted in the county of Fermanagh, that there had not been a man hanged in it for two and twenty years; all I concluded from this was, that there had been many a jury who deserved it richly.

Let me, however, conclude what I have to observe on the conduct of the principal people residing in Ireland, that there are great numbers among them who are as liberal in all their ideas as any people in Europe; that they have seen the errors which have given an ill character to the manners of their country, and done every thing that example could effect to produce a change: that that happy change has been partly effected, and is effecting every hour, in so much that a man may go into a vast variety of families which he will find actuated by no other principles than those of the most cultivated politeness, and the most liberal urbanity.

But

But I must now come to another class of people, to whose conduct it is almost entirely owing, that the character of the nation has not that lustre abroad, which I dare assert, it will soon very generally merit: this is the class of little country gentlemen*; tenants, who drink their claret by means of profit rents; jobbers in farms; bucks; your fellows with round hats, edged with gold, who hunt in the day, get drunk in the evening, and fight the next morning. I shall not dwell on a subject so perfectly disagreeable, but remark that these are the men among whom drinking, wrangling, quarreling, fighting, ravishing, &c. &c. &c. are found as in their native soil; once to a degree that made them the pest of society; they are growing better, but even now, one or two of them got by accident (where they have no business) into better company are sufficient very much to *derange* the pleasures that result from a liberal conversation. A new spirit; new fashions; new modes of politeness exhibited by the higher ranks are imitated by the lower, which will, it is to be hoped, put an end to this race of beings; and either drive their sons and cousins into the army or navy, or sink them into plain farmers like those we have in England where it is common to see men with much greater property without pretending to be gentlemen. I repeat it from the intelligence I received, that even this class are very different from what they were twenty years ago, and improve so fast that the time will soon come when the national character will not be degraded by any set.

That character is upon the whole respectable: it would be unfair to attribute to the nation at large the vices and follies of only one class of individuals. Those persons from whom it is candid to take a general estimate do credit to their country. That they are a people learned, lively and ingenious; the admirable authors they have produced will be an eternal monument, witness their Swift, Sterne, Congreve, Boyle, Berkeley, Steele, Farquhar, Southerne, and Goldsmith. Their talent for eloquence is felt, and acknowledged in the parliaments of both the kingdoms. Our own service both by sea and land, as well as that (unfortunately for us) of the principal monarchies of Europe speak their steady and determined courage. Every unprejudiced traveller who visits them will be as much pleased with their cheerfulness, as obliged by their hospitality: and will find them a brave, polite, and liberal people.

S E C T I O N XVIII.

Corn Trade of Ireland.——Bounty on inland Carriage.

THE police of corn in Ireland is almost confined to one of the most singular measures that have any where been adopted, which is giving a bounty on the inland carriage of corn from all parts of the kingdom, to the capital. Before it is fully explained it will be necessary to state the motives that were the inducement to it.

Dublin, it was asserted from the peculiarity of its situation, on the eastern extremity without any inland navigations leading to it, was found to be in point of consumption more an english than an irish city, in corn almost as much as in coals. The import of corn and flour drained the kingdom of great sums at the same time that the supply was uncertain and precarious. It was farther asserted that tillage was exceedingly neglected in Ireland, to the impoverishment of the kingdom, and the misery of the poor. That if some measure could be

* This expression is not to be taken in a general sense. God forbid I should give this character of all country gentlemen of small fortunes in Ireland: I have myself been acquainted with exceptions.—I mean only that in general they are not the most liberal people in the kingdom.

struck out at once to remedy those two evils, it would be of singular advantage to the community.

This reasoning furnished the hint to a gentleman of very considerable abilities, now high in office, there to plan the measure I am speaking of. It has been perfected by repeated acts giving a bounty on

5 Cwt.	or	40 stone	Flour	three-pence per mile.
ditto	—	ditto	Malt	two-pence halfp. ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Wheat	three-halfpence ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Oats	one penny ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Bere	three-halfpence ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Barley	three-halfpence ditto.

Oatmeal the same as oats; the ten first miles from Dublin deducted it amounts, as has been found by experience, to near twenty per cent. more for flour than the real expence of carriage, and one and a half per cent. more for wheat. In consequence of this act many of the finest mills for grinding corn that are to be found in the world were erected, some of which have been built upon such a scale, as to have cost near 20,000l. The effect has been considerable in extending tillage, and great quantities of the produce are carried to Dublin. Before I offer any observations on this system, it will be necessary to insert such tables as are necessary to explain the extent, effect, and expence of the measure which took place in 1762, and in 1776 and 7, arose to above 60,000l. In order to see what the import was before that period, and also what it was before the bounty was in full play, as well as since, the following table will have its use

IMPORT OF CORN AND FLOUR.									
		Barley and malt. Qrs.	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Ct.			Barley and malt. Qrs.	Wheat. Qrs.	Flour. Ct.
Year	1744	2,450	329	20,977	Year	1750	44,836	16,275	50,637
	1745	11,305	6,342	24,708		1751	47,581	20,317	60,985
	1746	138,934	129,190	110,832		1752	69,861	30,425	78,282
	1747	85,316	28,973	37,190		1753	61,927	18,195	63,527
	1748	29,015	3,402			1754	109,539	39,635	91,583
	1749	39,121	8,720	30,502		1755	99,386	57,699	89,015
Average,		51,023	29,492	37,368		1756	78,061	20,412	71,343
Value,		51,023	44,238	18,684	Average,		73,027	28,994	72,196
					Value, L.		73,027	42,491	36,098.

		Barley and Malt.		Wheat,		Flour.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		qrs.	l.	qrs.	l.	C.	l.
Year	1757	59,354	59,354	31,711	47,567	55,975	27,978
	1758	38,123	38,123	27,850	41,775	72,490	36,245
	1759	6,071	6,071	4,718	7,078	27,258	13,629
	1760	34,678	34,678	3,697	5,546	30,093	15,046
	1761	30,208	30,208	2,427	3,641	30,982	15,491
	1762	37,500	37,500	17,129	25,694	51,522	25,761
	1763	44,264	44,264	22,655	33,982	57,048	28,524
Average,		35,742	35,743	15,741	23,612	46,481	23,382

		IMPORT OF CORN AND FLOUR.					
		<i>Barley and Malt.</i>		<i>Wheat.</i>		<i>Flour.</i>	
		<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
		<i>qrs.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>l.</i>
Year	1764	31,587	31,587	25,763	38,645	108,209	54,104
	1765	48,854	48,854	10,529	15,794	67,409	33,704
	1766	40,356	40,356	14,130	21,196	81,371	40,685
	1767	30,681	30,681	39,456	59,184	58,182	29,091
	1768	5,684	5,684	11,802	17,704	22,600	11,300
	1769	4,759	5,948	2,199	3,299	15,447	7,723
	1770	35,514	44,392	43,532	87,065	86,776	52,065
Average,		28,205	29,643	21,059	34,698	62,856	32,667
Year	1771	55,620	69,525	53,448	106,897	125,321	75,193
	1772	22,372	27,965	12,163	24,327	47,754	28,652
	1773	6,970	8,712	2,861	5,722	10,306	6,183
	1774	189	236	4,104	8,893	23,465	14,079
	1775	656	820	3,235	7,009	28,902	17,341
	1776	7,857	8,643	7,547	16,353	26,292	15,775
	1777	43,101	47,411	3,457	7,490	69,838	41,903
Average,		19,538	23,330	12,402	25,242	47,697	28 446 *

BARLEY AND MALT.

		<i>Value.</i>
		<i>l.</i>
Average import of the	<i>Qrs.</i>	
First period, —	51,023	51,023
Second ditto, —	73,027	73,027
Third ditto, —	35,742	35,743
Fourth ditto, —	28,205	29,643
Fifth ditto, —	19,538	23,330

W H E A T.

		<i>Value.</i>
		<i>l.</i>
Average of the	<i>Qrs.</i>	
First period, —	29,492	44,238
Second ditto, —	28,994	43,491
Third ditto, —	15,741	23,612
Fourth ditto, —	21,059	34,698
Fifth ditto, —	12,402	25,242

F L O U R.

		<i>Value.</i>
		<i>l.</i>
Average of the	<i>Cwt.</i>	
First period, —	37,368	18,684
Second ditto, —	72,196	36,098

F L O U R, continued.

		<i>Value.</i>
		<i>l.</i>
Third period, —	<i>Cwt.</i>	
Fourth ditto, —	46,481	23,382
Fifth ditto, —	62,856	32,667
	47,697	28,146
		<i>l.</i>
Average value of the three commodities in the three first periods, }		116,436
Ditto of the two last, —		71,013
The import in the last fourteen years is less than in the preceding twenty, by }		45,423
Import of the fourth period —		97,008
Ditto of the fifth, being the period in which the bounty hath taken full effect, —		77,018
Difference, —		19,990

* MS. Communicated by the Right Hon. John Beresford, first commissioner of the revenue in Ireland.

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Those

These authentic comparisons differ most surprizingly from the assertions that have been made to me in conversation. I was led to believe that Dublin was no longer fed with english corn and flour, and that the difference of the import since the bounty took effect was not less than 200,000l. a year. What those assertions could mean is to me perfectly ænigmatical. Have the gentlemen who are fast friends to this measure, never taken the trouble to examine these papers? Has the business been so often before parliament, and committees of parliament, without having been particularly sifted? We here find that the import into Ireland of foreign barley and malt, wheat and flour have lessened in the last seven years, compared with the preceding seven years, no more than to the amount of about 20,000l. I read with attention the report of Mr. Forster's committee in 1774, the purport of which was to establish the principles whereon this bounty was given, but as the whole of that performance turns on a comparison of fifteen years before 1758, and fifteen years after, though itself contains a declaration (page 7) that the great effect of the measure then concerned only the three last years, very little information of consequence is to be drawn from it, since it assigns a merit to the measure while it admits none could flow from it, nor does the whole report contain one syllable of the decrease in the export of pasturage, which ought to have been minutely examined. But in order that we may have the whole corn trade before us, let me insert the import of other sorts of corn.

Year	Wheat Meal.		Oatmeal.		Beans and Pease.		Oats.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Barrels.	l.	Barrels.	l.	Qrs.	l.	Qrs.	l.
1757			4,677	1,559	425	382		
1758			4,038	1,346	647	582	5,985	3,591
1759			10	3	269	242	59	35
1760	9	11			410	369	72	43
1761					285	256	56	33
1762	95	119	1,181	393	497	447	9	5
1763	23	29	7,912	2,637	366	329		
Average,	18	22	2,545	848	414	373	883	529
Year 1764	1,136	1,420	55	18	543	489	139	83
1765	46	57			868	781		
1766	417	521	520	173	579	521	744	446
1767	9,659	12,074	740	246	689	620	2,854	1,712
1768	5,351	6,689			389	350	950	570
1769	1,023	1,278			453	453	115	74
1770	1,854	2,781	104	36	752	752	44	28
Average,	2,355	3,546	202	67	610	566	692	416
Year 1771	3,686	5,529	14,625	5,119	2,356	2,356	1,820	1,274
1772	2,904	4,356	13,599	4,759	836	836	351	246
1773	782	1,173	1,495	523	428	428	56	39
1774	759	1,138	430	150	481	602	333	250
1775	1,600	2,400	1,171	410	1,110	1,388	4	3
1776	682	1,023			781	976	24	18
1777	36	48	1,558	545	6,305	7,882	387	250
Average,	1,492	2,238	4,695	1,644	1,757	2,067	425	303 *

* MS. communicated by the Right Hon. Isaac Barré.

Value

Value of the import per annum of these articles in the last seven years,	—	l.
Ditto in the preceding seven years,	—	6,252
		<u>4,595</u>
Increase,	—	<u>1657</u>

Here therefore we find that instead of a decrease in the import the contrary has taken place.

Recapitulation of the total Value of Corn, Flour, &c. imported.

In the year 1757	—	l.	In the year 1764	—	l.
1758	—	136,860	1765	—	126,346
1759	—	121,662	1766	—	99,190
1760	—	27,058	1767	—	103,898
1761	—	55,694	1768	—	133,608
1762	—	49,629	1769	—	42,297
1763	—	89,919	1770	—	18,776
		<u>109,765</u>			* <u>187,119</u>
Average of seven years,	—	<u>84,369</u>	Average of seven years,	—	<u>101,604</u>

In the year 1771	—	l.	In the year 1775	—	l.
1772	—	265,897	1776	—	29,371
1773	—	91,141	1777	—	42,788
1774	—	22,780			<u>105,559</u>
		<u>25,348</u>	Average of seven years	—	<u>84,697</u>

Second period,	—	—	—	—	l.
Last seven years,	—	—	—	—	101,604
					<u>84,697</u>
			Decrease,	—	<u>16,907</u>

Here is the result of the whole import account; the balance of which in favour of the nation is no more than this trifling sum of sixteen thousand pounds. The account however must be farther examined; we must take the export side of the question, for there has been an export notwithstanding this great import. We see something of this in the register of our english corn trade, where is a considerable speculative commerce in corn; but as no such thing exists in Ireland, where the corn trade is a simple import of a necessary of life, it is a little surprizing if any great export appears. Let us however examine the account.

* The Dublin Society were not very accurate, when in their petition to parliament they set forth, that in two years preceding 1771 the import amounted to *upwards* of 600,000l.

CORN TRADE.

VALUE OF ALL THE CORN EXPORTED.

Year	C O R N.										FLOUR AND MEAL.				TOTALS.
	Barley.	Beans.	Malt.	Meslin.	Oats.	Pease.	Rye.	Wheat.	Flour.	Great.	Oat.	Wheat			
1757	1.	75	3	1.	5,369	5	1.	4	1.	9	6,576	1.	1.		
1758	44	128	10		3,120	20		1,037		12	2,231	20	12,105		
1759	6,537	312	422		12,281	38	13	3,521		378	12,536	65	13,104		
1760	2,076	535	780		1,233	71	143	2,317		92	4,410	257	31,642		
1761	3,701	853	1,210		686	53	310	1		30	5,816	26	13,539		
1762	2,942	886	665		1,680	70	46	16		573	3,738	54	11,927		
1763	1,814	105	70		4,314	13		154		4	4,988	21	9,542		
	2,734												12,403		
Average,	2,835	413	451		4,097	38	73	1,007		156	5,756	64	14,894		
Year	1764	318	376	64	6,684	78	6	44		158	9,189	166	18,868		
1765	1,785	911	1,058		13,512	67	128	495		35	11,042	27	28,149		
1766	874	840	1,032		8,365	237	68	351		222	15,701	29	35,557		
1767					238	12				2	180	15	447		
1768	8,205	108	13		9,300	433	5	3,627	2,867		17,897	15	42,470		
1769	8,485	677	6,127		29,408	148	33	14,422	10,627	20	29,386	7	99,340		
1770	1,066	60	1,234		12,924	20		103	12	3	13,840		29,268		
Average,	4,161	416	1,405	9	11,490	142	34	2,720	1,929	62	13,890	37	36,299		
Year	1771	3	390		3,217	18			29	6	495		4,326		
1772	168	50	176		14,079	33	13	1,694	197	11	20,248		37,616		
1773	1,109	428	155		10,250	55	54	4,374	115	25	10,040		31,280		
1774	5,784	643	674		37,330	104	137	1,825	1,144	20	41,706		96,048		
1775	12,405	13	375		23,347	121	140	8,268	3,524	30	18,749		65,894		
1776	13,327	775	2		45,668	268	59	30,705	9,024	75	19,714	133	114,297		
1777	7,874	2,217			47,911	348		26,158	18,405	170	8,574		104,642		
	859														
Average,	5,932	590	253		25,971	143	57	10,432	4,634	48	17,075	19	64,871*		

* Drawn from the totals of the export tables in the MS. communicated by Colonel Barré.

				l.
Exported in the last seven years per annum,	—	—	—	64,871
Ditto in the seven preceding,	—	—	—	36,299
				<hr/>
	Increase,	—	—	28,572
				<hr/>

But as the preceding table includes the export from all the ports in the kingdom, I have inserted it as an object of general information, not as immediately necessary to the enquiry before us, which concerns the port of Dublin only. A measure which draws the corn to that capital from all the ports in the kingdom, can never promote an export from them, but must operate in a contrary manner: for this reason I have drawn the export of the port of Dublin from the general tables for twenty one years, and find the averages of the three periods, each of seven years, to be in value as follows: the table itself is too voluminous to insert.

				l.	s.	d.
Exported in the first seven years, per annum,	—	—	—	2692	5	0
— second ditto,	—	—	—	3978	2	0
— last ditto	—	—	—	7550	9	0
The last period greater than than preceding by	—	—	—	3572	7	0

Which sum is the profit to be carried to the account of the inland carriage bounty.

I must here observe, that there was a bounty given on exportation, which took place the 24th of June, 1774. viz. 3s. 2d. on the quarter of wheat, ground wheat, meal, or wheat flour. 2s. 4d. on the quarter of rye, pease or beans ground or unground. 1s. 3d. on the quarter of oats, which act declares the half quarter of wheat, rye, pease, beans, meal, &c. shall be 224 lb. barley and malt were left out to ensure the acts passing in England.

The following sessions an additional duty on the import was laid of 2s. a barrel on all wheat, and 1s. per hundred weight on all flour, meal, bread, and biscuit except of the produce of or manufacture of Great Britain, to be levied when the middle price of wheat at the port where imported shall exceed 23s. english, the barrel of 280 lb. The old duty on wheat was 2d. per barrel; on flour 1s. from all ports, Great Britain included.

				l.
Decrease in the import of the last seven years,	—	—	—	16,907
Increase in the export from Dublin,	—	—	—	3,572
Total gain per annum according to this account in the last seven years,	—	—	—	20,479

The reader is not to imagine from hence, that the corn trade of Ireland yields a balance of profit; the advantage to be attributed to the bounty from this account is only a *lessening* of loss, as will appear from the following state of export and import over the whole kingdom.

I M P O R T

IMPORT AND EXPORT COMPARED IN VALUE.

	<i>Import.</i>	<i>Export.</i>	<i>Balance profit.</i>	<i>Balance lofs.</i>
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Year 1757	136,860	12,105		124,755
1758	121,662	13,104		108,558
1759	27,058	31,642	4,584	
1760	55,694	13,539		42,155
1761	49,629	11,927		37,702
1762	89,919	9,542		80,377
1763	109,762	12,403		97,359
Average,	84,369	14,894	654	70,129
Year 1764	126,346	18,868		107,478
1765	99,190	28,149		71,041
1766	103,898	35,557		68,341
1767	133,608	447		133,161
1768	42,297	42,470	173	
1769	18,776	99,340	80,564	
1770	187,119	29,268		157,851
Average,	101,604	36,299	11,533	76,838
Year 1771	265,897	4,326		261,571
1772	91,141	37,616		53,525
1773	22,788	31,280	8,493	
1774	25,348	96,048	70,700	
1775	29,371	65,894	36,523	
1776	42,788	114,297	71,509	
1777	105,559	104,642		917
Average,	83,270	64,871	26,746	45,144

Lofs per annum in the middle seven years,	—	—	—	—	l. 76,838
Gain ditto,	—	—	—	—	11,533
Neat lofs per annum,	—	—	—	—	65,305
Lofs per annum in the laft seven years,	—	—	—	—	45,144
Gain ditto,	—	—	—	—	26,746
Neat lofs per annum,	—	—	—	—	18,398

It is a reduction of the lofs of 65,000l. down to 18000l.

Having thus discovered the advantage of the meaſure, let us in the next place examine, at what expence this benefit has been obtained. The following table ſhews the payments of the bounty to each county; the totals; the ſtones of corn, and the cwts. of flour brought.

Total

An ACCOUNT of the Sums paid as Bounties on the inland Carriage of Corn to Dublin. Continued.

	1770.	1771.	1772.	1773.	1774.	1775.	1776.	1777.
Antrim,	l. 267	l. 133	l. 7	l. 27	l. 1.	l. 1.	l. 1.	l. 1.
Armagh,	3	4						
Carlow,	800	423	1,025	2,676	2,813	2,435	1,994	2,479
Cavan,	2			6		8	24	18
Clare,	34	4	116	179	119	131	133	
Corke,	979	1,399	1,350	1,491	1,902	783	4,200	2,350
Donegall,								
Dublin,	300	289	400	488	576	460	469	517
Fermanagh,				2	5			
Galway,	70	13	461	623	812	1,570	1,873	1,200
Kildare,	1,910	2,187	2,939	3,372	2,922	2,603	3,199	3,485
Kilkenny,	8,104	9,752	18,215	16,279	14,996	14,690	16,326	20,816
King's,	624	678	2,243	2,021	2,647	1,750	3,138	3,161
Leitrim,	3	1	20	20	3	8	45	17
Limerick,	79	463	714	1,134	2,604	3,066	2,773	607
Longford,	143	15	217	277	170	341	339	311
Louth,	36	27	163	131	66	27	150	212
Mayo,	4	5	85	214	203	339	201	157
Meath,	2,158	1,351	2,333	2,455	2,733	2,739	3,633	4,594
Monaghan,		3	4				13	66
Queen's,	1,479	1,781	3,512	3,564	3,511	3,558	4,056	3,161
Roscommon,	193	18	598	958	1,135	1,012	1,892	1,740
Sligo,	202	14	391	433	388	198	320	192
Tipperary,	381	103	2,997	4,963	8,070	10,426	10,577	9,862
Waterford,				110	129	188	46	
Wexmeath,	350	292	877	1,467	1,912	1,415	2,045	1,562
Wexford,	495	293	820	1,437	1,745	2,306	3,172	4,952
Wicklow,	81	28	63	135	204	124	116	318
Totals,	18,706	19,290	39,560	44,465	49,674	53,889	60,745	61,786
	1,920,978 ft.	1,641,867 ft.	3,146,960 ft.	3,263,199 ft.	3,553,996 ft.	3,211,214 ft.	3,622,076	3,240,692 ft.
	79,350 Ct.	87,965 Ct.	153,139 Ct.	175,177 Ct.	190,346 Ct.	213,885 Ct.	255,256 Ct.	317,753 Ct.*

* Taken from the Journals of the House of Commons. In 1778 the total payment was 71,533 l. and in 1779, 67,864 l. besides 2,500 for it coaltways, a new bounty.

	l.
Total payment in 1764	— 5,483
1765	— 6,660
1766	— 9,212
1767	— 6,074
1768	— 13,675
1769	— 25,225
1770	— 18,706
	<hr/>
Paid in seven years,	— 85,038
	<hr/>
Which is, per annum,	— 12,148
	<hr/>

	l.
Total payment in 1771	— 19,290
1772	— 39,560
1773	— 44,465
1774	— 49,674
1775	— 53,889
1776	— 60,745
1777	— 61,786
	<hr/>
Paid in seven years,	— 329,413
	<hr/>
Which is, per annum,	— 47,059
	<hr/>

If therefore the account was to be closed here, it appears that forty-seven thousand pounds per annum, have been given of the publick money for a gain in the export and import account of corn of twenty thousand pounds a year. Surely this is paying very dear for it!—but the account does not end here.

From this table the reader finds, that the bounty has been continually rising, until it has exceeded sixty thousand pounds a year. It also appears, that the increase of tillage has been chiefly in the counties of Kilkenny, Tipperary, Carlow, Meath, Kildare, King's, Wexford, Queen's, and Limerick, as will appear by contrasting the first and the last years of those counties.

Counties.	1762		1777
	l.		l.
Kilkenny,	— 2,079	—	20,816
Tipperary,	— 191	—	9,862
Carlow,	— 160	—	2,479
Meath,	— 506	—	4,594
Kildare,	— 748	—	3,485
King's,	— 447	—	3,161
Wexford,	— 33	—	4,952
Queen's,	— 651	—	3,161
Roscommon,	— 12	—	1,740

And Limerick arose from nothing at all to 2773l. in the year 1776; from hence one fact clearly appears, that the increase of tillage has by no means been in the poor counties, by breaking up uncultivated lands; on the contrary, it has been entirely in the richest counties in the kingdom, which confirms the intelligence I received on the journey, that it was good sheep land that had principally been tilled. The bounty to Tipperary, Carlow and Roscommon, once the greatest sheep counties in Ireland, was insignificant at the beginning of the measure, but has at last become very great. This circumstance, so essential in the subject, renders it absolutely necessary to enlarge our enquiry, that we may examine, as well as our materials will permit, whether any national loss, as well as profit, has resulted from converting so much rich pasture land into tillage; and in order to do this, it will be necessary to lay before the reader the exports of the produce of pasturage from Ireland, during these two periods of seven years each, which serve us for a comparison.

An Account of the Export of the Produce of Pasturage, from 1753 to 1777*.

Year	Barrels of Beef.	Ct. Butter.	Ct. Candles.	No. Hides.	Ct. Tallow.	Cows, bull. and borjes.	Ct. Cheese.
1753	180,877	200,060		160,656	29,128		
1754	149,558	107,998		128,739	20,156		
1755	180,980	223,294		154,184	26,029		
1756	142,686	203,876		113,523	21,217		
1757	147,804	181,134		158,822	18,006		
1758	195,789	181,454		161,197	17,960		
1759	136,356	237,169		117,113	22,331		
Average,	162,034	203,569		142,033	22,118		
Year 1764	218,220	257,976	8,895	163,812	50,501	1,089	3,466
1765	199,999	301,109	5,564	106,335	52,706	1,767	3,927
1766	190,409	271,946	3,293	121,854	46,543	2,135	3,840
1767	173,484	257,047	2,862	111,895	51,071	1,880	3,541
1768	209,847	304,623	4,222	124,149	51,662	3,505	4,113
1769	205,368	315,153	3,428	113,056	49,089	2,626	2,686
1770	208,269	262,717	1,730	131,130	48,260	1,887	1,815
Average,	200,799	201,510	4,284	124,604	49,976	2,127	3,341
Year 1771	201,010	238,801	2,170	139,759	46,842	1,298	1,996
1772	200,829	288,457	2,430	155,966	44,981	1,057	2,406
1773	215,191	272,399	2,183	110,978	39,920	1,476	2,101
1774	187,494	270,096	2,024	108,282	41,350	3,359	2,575
1775	192,452	264,140	2,234	136,782	42,295	7,418	1,953
1776	203,685	272,411	3,155	108,574	50,549	8,035	2,229
1777	168,578	264,181	1,764	84,391	48,502	5,640	1,597
Average,	195,605	267,212	2,280	121,963	44,919	4,040	2,122

* The first seven years from the commons journals, the last fourteen from the parliamentary records of import and export. MS.

The prices of all these commodities must be ascertained, in order to discover the increase or decrease of value.

The custom-house price of beef is 1l. 6s. 8d. per barrel; but I find that the average price at Waterford, from 1764 to 1776, was 16s. per cwt. or 1l. 12s. the barrel. The custom-house rate of butter is 2l. per cwt. but by the same authority, I find the real price on the average of the last fourteen years to be 2l. 5s. 6d. Candles at the custom-house 1l. 15s. per cwt. the real price 2l. 10s. Tallow at the custom-house 2l. the true price 2l. 4s. 6d.

Average

PRICES OF PRODUCTS.

91

Average Price of four and a half hundred Beef per Hundred Weight.

Year		s.	d.	Year		s.	d.	Year		l.	s.	d.
1756	—	12	3	1764	—	13	6	1771	—	0	16	6
1757	—	11	6	1765	—	14	0	1772	—	0	16	0
1758	—	12	0	1766	—	16	0	1773	—	0	16	6
1759	—	11	6	1767	—	17	0	1774	—	0	18	0
1760	—	12	6	1768	—	13	0	1775	—	0	18	0
1761	—	12	6	1769	—	15	0	1776	—	1	0	0
1762	—	12	0	1770	—	16	0					
1763	—	13	0									

Average of the last 13 years, 16s.

Shipping Prices of Butter, Tallow, Candles, and Pork, in Waterford, from the Year 1764 to 1777, both inclusive *.

		<i>Butter per Cwt.</i>		<i>Tallow per Cwt.</i>		<i>Candles per Cwt.</i>		<i>Pork per barrel.</i>	
		s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.
In the year	1764	43	to 36 0	31	to 30 0	41	to 40 0	40	to 39 0
	1765	36	— 38 0	39	— 40 0	40	— 41 0	38	— 40 0
	1766	38	— 36 0	42	— 41 0	47	— 48 0	38	— 39 0
	1767	47	— 38 0	43	— 44 0	49	— 50 0	43	— 45 0
	1768	38	— 42 6	44	— 43 0	51	— 52 0	45	— 48 6
	1769	42	— 53 0	44	— 45 0	54	— 53 0	42	— 38 0
	1770	45	— 48 6	42	— 40 0	54	— 53 0	41	— 45 0
	1771	57	— 48 0	44	— 45 0	53	— 54 0	44	— 46 0
	1772	54	— 48 0	46	— 52 0	54	— 56 0	53	— 54 0
	1773	56	— 44 0	44	— 42 0	51	— 52 0	58	— 60 0
	1774	50	— 40 0	40	— 43 0	54	— 55 0	42	— 45 0
	1775	53	— 44 0	40	— 41 0	50	— 51 0	45	— 42 0
	1776	53	— 43 0	41	— 40 0	50	— 51 0	47	— 49 0
	1777	58	— 55 0	41	— 43 0	51	— 52 0	66	— 70 0
Average, - -			45 6		44 6		50 0		46 6

Those are the prices as they appeared at the beginning and at the end of the year.

* MS. Communicated by Cornelius Bolton, Esq; member for that city.

PASTURAGE EXPORT.

Prices of Ox Hides of 112lb. from the Year 1756 to 1776, both inclusive.

Year	l.	s.	d.	Year	l.	s.	d.	Year	l.	s.	d.			
1756	—	1	7	0	1763	—	0	19	6	1770	—	1	8	0
1757	—	1	7	0	1764	—	0	18	6	1771	—	1	4	0
1758	—	1	2	6	1765	—	1	4	0	1772	—	1	1	0
1759	—	1	1	0	1766	—	1	5	0	1773	—	1	3	0
1760	—	1	0	6	1767	—	1	6	0	1774	—	1	10	0
1761	—	1	2	6	1768	—	1	8	6	1775	—	1	13	0
1762	—	1	2	0	1769	—	1	11	0	1776	—	1	14	0

The real price of hides I was disappointed in at Corke, must therefore take that of the custom-house, which is 1l. 13s. 4d. tanned, and 1l. 5s. untanned; as more of the latter, I shall suppose 1l. 8s. on an average. Of the cows, bullocks, and horses, I am quite ignorant, shall therefore guess them at 5l. on an average. Cheese at the custom-house 1l. per cwt.

TOTAL EXPORTS OF PASTURAGE.

	First Period.	Per annum.
		l.
Export of beef from 1753 to 1759, 162,034 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per,	—	259,254
Ditto butter, 203,569 cwt. at 2l. 5s. 6d. per,	—	463,119
Ditto hides, 142,033, at 1l. 8s. per,	—	198,845
Ditto tallow, 22,118 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per,	—	49,211
Average export of the first seven years,	—	970,429
	Second Period.	
Beef from 1764 to 1770, 200,799 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per,	—	321,277
Butter, 281,510 cwt. at 2l. 5s. 6d. per,	—	640,434
Candles, 4284 cwt. at 2l. 10s. per,	—	10,710
Hides, 124,604, at 1l. 8s. per,	—	174,445
Tallow, 49,976 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per,	—	111,196
Live stock, 2,127, at 5l. per,	—	10,635
Cheese, 3,341 cwt. at 1l. per,	—	3,341
Average export of the second seven years,	—	1,272,038
	Third Period.	
Beef from 1771 to 1777, 195,605 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per,	—	312,967
Butter, 267,212 cwt. at 2l. 5s. 6d. per,	—	607,907
Candles, 2,280 cwt. at 2l. 10s. per,	—	5,016
Hides, 121,963, at 1l. 8s. per,	—	170,747
Tallow, 44,919 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per,	—	99,943
Live stock, 4,040, at 5l. per,	—	20,200
Cheese, 2,122 cwt. at 1l. per,	—	2,122
Average export of the last seven years,	—	1,218,902
Second period greater than the first by	—	301,609
Second period greater than the last by	—	53,136

The second period being greater than the first by near three hundred thousand pounds, and Ireland having been throughout all three periods on the advance in prosperity, it follows, that the increase should have continued, had not some other reason interfered, and occasioned, instead of a similar increase of three hundred thousand pounds, a falling off of above fifty thousand.

thousand. I cannot suppose that the increase of tillage did all this; I should suppose that impossible. Most of these commodities are certainly consumed at home, which perhaps may account for there being no increase; but the increase of tillage must inevitably have had its share, and it is assigning a very moderate one to it, to suppose the amount no more than this decrease of fifty thousand pounds a year. We come next to sheep, and the exports which depend on them. The following table shews the whole at one view.

Year	Wool, stones.	Value at 14 s.	Woolen yarn stones.	Value at 17s. 6d.	Worsted yarn stones.	Value at 40 s.	Total stones.	Total value.
	stones.	l.	stones.	l.	stones.	l.	stones.	l.
1764	10,128	7,089	9,991	8,742	139,412	278,824	159,531	294,655
1765	17,316	12,121	13,450	11,768	149,915	299,830	180,681	323,719
1766	21,722	15,205	7,980	6,982	152,122	304,244	181,824	326,431
1767	48,733	34,113	7,553	6,603	151,940	303,880	208,226	344,596
1768	28,521	19,964	11,387	9,963	157,721	315,442	197,629	345,369
1769	3,840	2,688	5,012	4,385	131,364	262,728	138,216	269,801
1770	2,578	1,804	3,833	3,353	117,753	235,506	124,164	240,663
Average,	18,976	13,283	8,458	7,399	142,889	285,779	170,038	306,462
Year	1771	218	152	3,909	139,378	278,756	144,064	282,817
	1772	2,045	1,431	5,203	115,904	231,808	123,896	238,442
	1773	1,839	1,287		94,098	188,196	95,937	189,483
	1774	1,007	704		63,920	127,840	64,027	128,544
	1775	2,007	1,404		78,896	157,792	80,903	159,196
	1776	1,059	741		86,527	173,054	87,586	173,795
	1777	1,734	1,213		114,703	229,406	116,437	230,619
Average,	1,415	990	1,459	1,301	99,060	198,121	101,964	200,413 *

* The quantities taken from the Parliament Records of Import and Export, MS. and the value added.

In the last century the quantity of wool, &c. was much larger, indeed it was so great, as will appear from the following table, as to form a considerable proportion of the kingdom's exports.

	Wool.	Yarn.		Wool.	Yarn.
	stones.	stones.		stones.	stones.
Year 1687	256,592	3,668	Year 1703	360,862	36,873
1697	217,678	13,480	1711	310,136	55,273
1700	336,292	26,617	1712	263,946	60,108
1701	302,812	23,390	1713	171,871	68,548
1702	315,473	43,148	1711	147,153	58,147

Relative to the prices I have charged, the following table is the authority.

Market Prices of Wool in the Fleece, per Stone of sixteen pounds; and of Bay Yarn, per Pack, containing fourteen great Stones, of eighteen pounds each.

	Wool.	Bay Yarn.		Wool.	Bay Yarn.
	per ft.	per pack.		per ft.	per pack.
	s. d.	l. s. d.		s. d.	l. s. d.
Year 1764	11 0	26 5 0	Year 1772	* 0	28 7 0
1765	10 0	24 13 6	1773	* 0	27 6 0
1766	11 0	25 4 0	1774	14 0	25 4 0
1767	13 0	27 6 0	1775	16 0	29 8 0
1768	13 6	26 5 0	1776	16 6	30 9 0
1769	13 6	26 15 6	1777	17 6	30 9 0
1770	14 0	26 15 6			
1771	14 0	26 15 6	Average is nearly	14 0	27 4 5

* Unsettled, but very high.——The pack of bay yarn is taken to contain 2100 skains.

Wool is here rated at the market price for combing wool rough in the fleece, but no estimate can be formed from this upon what has been exported, the small quantities whereof have been for the most part wool upon skins or coarse fells, which must have come much lower than the prices herein mentioned.

Woollen yarn for export has not been an article for sale in Ireland, what has been sent out was directly from the manufacturer, I presume in very small quantities, and from the port of Corke only.

Worsted, or bay yarn, is sent principally to Norwich and Manchester, it sells by the skain in Ireland, but in the preceding table it is rated by the pack; the cost at market is only noticed, the necessary charges on shipping amount to full two per cent. exclusive of commission which is two per cent. more.

Wool, woollen, and bay yarn, are exported by the great stone, containing eighteen pounds weight. A licence for exporting must be procured from the lord lieutenant, the cost of which is nearly fourpence halfpenny per stone*. From comparing the prices at different periods, exported woollen yarn may pretty safely be rated at seventeen shillings and sixpence per stone, of which five shillings a stone is labour.

	l.
Exported value in the first period,	306,462
Ditto in the last,	200,413
Decrease,	106,049

* Communicated by Mr. Joshua Pine, in the yarn trade. The custom-house price of wool is 15s. woollen yarn 17s. and worsted yarn 11. 13s. 4d.

Whoever

Whoever recurs to the minutes of the journey, in the counties of Carlow, Tipperary, and Roscommon, the great sheep-walks of Ireland, will have no reason to be surprized at this loss of one hundred thousand pounds a year. There are yet other subjects so connected with the present enquiry, that in order to have a clear and distinct idea of it, we must include in the account. I think it fair to give tillage credit for any increase there may be in pork, bacon, lard, hogs, and bread; it is true they do not entirely belong to it, for dairies yield much; but to obviate objections, I will suppose them totally connected with tillage. The following table includes all these articles.

EXPORTS OF						
		<i>Pork, barrels.</i>	<i>Flitches of bacon.</i>	<i>Lard, Cwt.</i>	<i>Bread, Cwt.</i>	<i>Hogs.</i>
Year	1753	23,682				
	1754	23,684				
	1755	20,930				
	1756	51,345				
	1757	25,071				
	1758	28,746				
	1759	40,336				
Average,		30,542 *				
Year	1764	35,066	226	1,852	8,783	60
	1765	44,361	3,592	3,940	7,417	140
	1766	50,155	9,640	1,783	8,228	481
	1767	34,995	5,778	1,055	6,876	0
	1768	43,041	21,275	1,496	6,791	22
	1769	40,039	8,156	1,549	6,792	444
	1770	43,947	6,500	1,913	5,597	416
Average,		41,649	7,881	1,869	7,197	223
Year	1771	42,519	5,773	1,841	8,006	76
	1772	44,713	14,142	2,235	4,575	90
	1773	51,112	19,256	2,156	5,827	135
	1774	52,328	26,100	2,379	5,090	882
	1775	50,367	32,644	1,686	4,012	680
	1776	72,714	24,502	3,216	13,302	1,148
	1777	72,931	11,462	2,981	29,627	1,358
Average,		55,240	19,125	2,356	10,062	624 †

Export of pork per annum, from 1764 to 1770, 41,649 barrels, at 2l. 6s. 6d. }	l.
per barrel **, — — — — — }	96,833
Bacon, 788 cwt. at 15s. per cwt. † — — — — —	5,910
Lard, 1869 cwt. at 1l. per cwt. † — — — — —	1,869
Bread, 7197 cwt. at 10s. per cwt. † — — — — —	3,598
Hogs, 223, at 15s. a piece †, — — — — —	166
Average export of seven years, — — — — —	108,376

* Journals of the House of Commons. † Parliament Record of Export and Import, MS.
 ** Waterford price. † Custom House price. ‡ Supposed at that rate for want of authority.
 Export

Export of pork per annum, from 1771 to 1777, 55,240 barrels, at 2l. 6s. 6d. }	128,435
per barrel, — — — — — }	
Bacon, 19,125 at 15s. — — — — —	14,343
Lard, 2356 cwt. at 1l. per cwt. — — — — —	2,356
Bread, 10,062 cwt. at 10s. per cwt. — — — — —	5,031
Hogs, 624, at 15s. a piece. — — — — —	468
Average exports of the last seven years, — — — — —	150,631
Increase in the last seven years, — — — — —	42,255

The data are now very completely before the reader, from which the merit of this extraordinary measure may be estimated. I will not assert that any custom-house accounts are absolutely authentic; I know the common objections to them, and that there is a foundation for those objections; but the point of consequence in the present enquiry does not depend on their *absolute*, but comparative accuracy; that is to say, if the errors objected to them exist, they will be found as great in one period as in another, consequently their authority is perfectly competent for the comparison of different ones. Whoever will examine the entries with a minute attention, and compare them with a variety of other circumstances, will generally be able to distinguish the suspicious articles. In the present enquiry I will venture to assert that they speak truth, for they correspond exactly (as I shall by and by shew) with many other causes which could hardly have failed without a miracle of producing the effects they display. I should further add, that of the greatest number of the articles inserted in the preceding tables there are duties paid on the export which exempt them from the common objection to the entries. But to reason against the accuracy of such accounts is perfectly useless while ministers in defence of their measures; and patriots in opposition to them found their arguments on them alone. Whoever attends either the english or irish house of commons will presently see this in a multiplicity of instances. All who come to the bar of those houses, depend on these accounts; committees of parliament rely on them, and the best political writers of every period; from Child and Davenant to Campbell and Whitworth, have agreed in the same conduct, knowing the errors to which they are liable; but knowing also that there is no better authority, and that they are perfectly competent to comparisons.

Having thus closed my authorities, I shall now draw them into one view, by stating the account of the inland carriage bounty, Debtor and Creditor.

Dr.	BOUNTY ON THE INLAND CARRIAGE OF CORN.		Cr.
	l.		l.
To payments of public money on } the average of the last 7 years, }	47,059	By decrease in the import of } corn, &c. — — — — — }	16,907
To decrease in the export of beef, } butter, &c. — — — — — }	53,136	By increase in the export of corn, }	3,570
To decrease in the export of wool } and yarn, — — — — — }	106,049	By increase in the export of pork, } hogs, bread, &c. — — — — — }	42,255
			62,734
		Balance against the bounty, —	143,510
	<hr/> 206,244		<hr/> 206,244

Thus far I have laid before the reader a connected chain of such facts as the records of the measure, and the parliamentary accounts would permit: it appears as clearly as the testimony of figures can speak, that it has had very ill effects upon the general national account. Had the effect we have seen taken place of itself without any artificial means to assist it, the friends of

of the publick would perhaps have been well employed to remedy the evil : how absurd therefore must it appear to find that it has been brought about with the utmost care and assiduity, and at an expence of near fifty thousand pounds a year of the publick money !

It is the intention and effect of this bounty to turn every local advantage, and natural supply topsy turvy. We have had for several years in England, an importation of foreign corn more than proportioned (the kingdoms compared) to any thing the irish knew *. If any one to remedy this, proposed a bounty on bringing corn by land from Devonshire and Northumberland, so as to give it a preference in the London market to that of Kent and Essex, with what contempt would the proposer and proposition be treated ! the corn counties of Louth and Kildare in the vicinity of Dublin are not to supply that market, but it is to eat its bread from Corke and Wexford !

It must also be brought by land carriage ! the absurdity and folly with which such an idea is pregnant in a country blessed with such ports, and such a vast extent of coast, are so glaring that it is amazing that sophistry could blind the legislature to such a degree as to permit a second thought of it. Why not carry the corn in ships, as well as tear up all the roads leading to Dublin by cars ? Why not increase your sailors instead of horses ? Are they not as profitable an animal ? If you must have an inland bounty, why not to the nearest port from which it could be carried with the most ease, and at the least expence to Dublin ? This would have answered the same end. The pretence for the measure was the great import of foreign corn at Dublin ; this is granting that there was a great demand at Dublin ; and can any one suppose that if the corn was forced to Corke or Wexford, it would not find the way to such a demand as easily as from the east of England, which is the only part of that kingdom which abounds with corn for exportation ? But the very pretence was a falsehood, for with what regard to truth could it be asserted that Dublin was fed with english corn before this measure took effect, when it appears by the preceding accounts, that the import of the whole kingdom from 1757 to 1763 was only 84,000l. a year, and from 1764 to 1770 no more than 101,604l. ? This import account does not distinguish like the export one, the ports at which the foreign corn was received ; if it did I should in all probability find but a moderate part of this total belonging to Dublin, as it is very well known that in the north there is always a considerable import of oatmeal. Granting however the evil, still the plan of remedying it by a land carriage of 130 miles was absurd to the last degree. But suppose so considerable a city as Dublin did import foreign corn to a large amount, is it wise to think this so great a national evil, that all the principles of common policy are to be wounded in order to remedy it ? Where is the country to be found that is free from considerable importations even of the product of land ? Has not Ireland a prodigious export of her soil's produce in the effects of pasturage, for which her climate is singularly adapted ? And while she has that of what little account is a trifling import of corn to feed her capital city ? We have seen the undoubted loss that has accrued to the nation from a violent endeavour to counteract this import, yet the measure has only lessened it to an inconsiderable degree.

I was at a mill on Corke harbour above 120 miles from Dublin, and saw cars loading for that market on the bounty, with a ship laying at the mill quay bound for Dublin, and waiting for a loading ; could invention suggest any scheme more preposterous than thus to confound at the publick expence all the ideas of common practice, and common sense ! By means of this measure I have been assured it has happened that the flour of Slaine mills has found its way to Carlow, and that of Laughlin Bridge to Drogheda : that is to say, Mr. Jebb eats his bread of Captain Mercer's flour, and the latter makes his pudding with Mr. Jebb's assistance, they live 100 miles asunder, and the publick pays the piper while the flour dances the hay in this manner.

The vast difference between the expence of land and water carriage should ever induce the legislature, though sailors were not in question, to encourage the latter rather than the former. From Corke there is paid bounty 5s. 6½d. yet the freight at 10s. a ton is only 6d. The

* In 1774 we imported to the value of 1,023,000 l. ; and in 1775 to that of 1,265,562.

bounty from Laughlin Bridge is 2s. 3¹d. yet Captain Mercer pays in summer but 1s. 4d. and in winter no more than 1s. 6d. Mr. Moore at Marlefield receives 4s. bounty, but his carriage cost him only 2s. 6d. in summer, and 3s. in winter; hence therefore we find that the bounty more than pays the expence, and that the profit is in proportion to the distance, i. e. the absurdity.

In the year ending september 1777, there were 34,598 barrels of malt brought from Wexford to Dublin by land, receiving 7077l. 4s. 11d. bounty.

34,598 barrels are 51,897 Cwt. which at 6 Cwt. per horse would take for	}			8,649 horses.
one day,	—	—	—	
From Wexford to Dublin and back takes seven days, or	—	—	—	60,546 horses.
One man to two horses,	—	—	—	30,273 men.
				l. s. d.
The horses at 16d. a day,	—	—	—	4,306 8 0
Men at 9d. a day,	—	—	—	1,135 4 9
				<hr/>
Seven days men and horses,	—	—	—	5171 12 9
The freight of which to Dublin at 8s. a ton should be,	—	—	—	1,037 12 0
				<hr/>
Saving by sea *,	—	—	—	4,134 0 9
				<hr/>

It is therefore a *loss* of about 80 per cent. *purchased* by the bounty.

In proportion as sailors are lessened horses are increased. Suppose common coasting vessels navigated at the rate of one man to twenty tons, it requires sixty-six horses to draw that burthen, and thirty-three men: so that for every sailer lost there are above threescore of this worst of all stock kept; which is of itself an enormous national loss. If the number of horses kept at actual work by this bounty, with the mares, colts, &c. to supply them were known, it might probably be found so large as to lessen a little of the veneration with which this measure is considered in Ireland.

I find that in the sessions of 1769 and 1771, there was a bounty paid on the carriage of corn coastways to Dublin. It amounted in the first to 3278 l. †, and in the latter to 4973 l. ‡, the act lasted only those four years. It was an experiment which surely ought to have been continued; for if corn is to be forced to Dublin this most certainly is the only rational way of doing it.

By the following table the amount of this coasting trade will be seen, with and without that bounty.

* MS. Communicated by ——— Nevill, Esq; member for Wexford.

† June 1. 1768. 7th George III. Chap. 24.

4 d. per Cwt. corn of irish growth by water coastways to Dublin, southward between Wicklow and the Tuscar; north, between Drogheda or Carrickfergus.

5 d. per Cwt. if southward of Tuscar or north Carrickfergus.

4 d. per Cwt. southward of Cooley point to Newry, Belfast or Londonderry.

Continued to 24th June 1771.

‡ MS. Account of publick premiums communicated by the Right Hon. John Forster, member for the county of Louth.

Year

Corn and Flour brought coastways to Dublin from 1758 to 1777.

	<i>Wheat and wheat meal.</i>	<i>Bere and barley.</i>	<i>Malt.</i>	<i>Flour.</i>	<i>Oats and oatmeal.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>
In the year 1758	1,424	61,794	2,991	40	22,178	88,427
1759	527	69,326	5,106	37	10,963	85,959
1760	37	75,846	3,812	48	9,273	89,016
1761	43	64,589	3,272	40	9,792	77,736
1762	118	63,980	3,347	52	10,484	77,981
1763	902	66,150	3,505	124	10,762	81,443
1764	1,542	79,710	3,812	161	10,663	95,888
1765	1,611	64,705	3,427	142	10,053	79,938
1766	11,000	39,398	6,610	282	14,276	71,566
1767	8,006	61,346	6,266	1,150	12,006	88,774
					Total,	836,728
1768	2,430	76,684	15,507	39	15,858	110,518
1769	5,669	81,749	14,479	753	21,723	124,373
1770	6,062	68,378	18,522	381	9,130	102,473
1771	5,425	60,530	8,558	232	16,157	90,902
1772	8,130	49,658	18,455	743	14,468	91,454
1773	3,525	48,836	17,106	269	12,117	81,853
1774	4,755	46,724	27,659	76	17,181	96,395
1775	832	49,213	25,165	290	5,615	81,115
1776	1,182	51,778	21,790		6,591	81,341
1777	712	37,511	17,467	630	10,733	67,053 *
					Total,	927,477
Average of the last 7 years, }	3,508	49,178	19,457	320	11,837	84,301

With the assistance of these particulars, united with the quantities on which the inland bounty is paid, given at page 87 and 88, we shall be able to see the principal part of the consumption of the city of Dublin.

Brought by Land-carriage Bounty.

Year	<i>Stones.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	Year	<i>Stones.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>
1762	1,730,869		1771	1,641,867	87,965
1763	1,592,418		1772	3,146,960	153,139
1764	1,622,933		1773	3,263,199	175,177
1765	1,409,726		1774	3,553,996	190,346
1766	1,464,296		1775	3,211,214	213,885
1767	945,289		1776	3,622,076	255,256
1768	2,148,805		1777	3,240,692	317,753
1769	2,608,910	107,986			
1770	1,920,978	79,350			
			Average of last seven years, }	3,097,143	199,074

* MS. Communicated by ——— Nevill, Esq; member for Wexford.
N 2

By these accounts, Dublin on an average of the last seven years has consumed

3,097,143 Stones of corn,
199,074 Cwt. of Flour,
84,301 Barrel of both coastways.

If the average weight of the corn is 14 stone per barrel, the first of these articles

Will make in barrels,	—	—	—	—	—	221,224
The 199,074 Cwt. of flour may be called in barrels of wheat,	—	—	—	—	—	180,000
Add the above barrels coastways,	—	—	—	—	—	84,301
				Total,	—	<u>485,525</u>

To this should be added the import of foreign corn, which is known to be considerably more than the export, and it will appear that if there are 150,000 inhabitants in Dublin they must consume above three barrels each of all sorts of corn in a year, which considering that the mass of the people live very much upon potatoes is a great allowance, and suggests the idea either that the people are more numerous, or that more money is paid in bounties than there ought to be by the acts, which is probable.

I come now to consider one of the principal arguments used in favour of this measure. It is the increase of tillage being so beneficial to the kingdom. Taken as a general position there may, or may not be truth in the assertion: I am apt to think rather more stress is laid on it than there ought to be, and some reasons for that opinion may be seen in *Political Arithmetic*, p. 363. &c. But not to enter into the general question at present, I have to observe two circumstances upon the state of Ireland; first the moisture of the climate, and secondly the sort of tillage introduced.

That the climate is far moister than that of England I have already given various reasons to conclude; but the amazing tendency of the soil to grafs would prove it if any proof was wanting. Let general Cunningham and Mr. Silver Oliver recollect the instances they shewed me of turnep land, and stubble left without ploughing, and yielding the succeeding summer a full crop of hay. These are such facts as we have not an idea of in England. Nature therefore points out in the clearest manner, the application of the soil in Ireland most suitable to the climate. But this moisture which is so advantageous to grafs, is pernicious to corn. The finest corn in Europe and the world is uniformly found in the driest countries; it is the weight of wheat which points out its goodness; which lessens per measure gradually from Barbary to Poland. The wheat of Ireland has no weight compared with that of dry countries; and I have on another occasion observed that there is not a sample of a good colour in the whole kingdom. The crops are full of grafs and weeds, even in the best management, and the harvests are so wet and tedious as greatly to damage the produce; but at the same time, and for the same reason cattle of all sorts look well, never failing of a full bite of excellent grafs: the very driest summers do not affect the verdure as in England.

I do not make these observations, in order to conclude that tillage will not do in Ireland. I know it may be made to do; but I would leave the vibrations from corn to pasturage, and from pasturage to corn, to the cultivators of the land to guide themselves as prices and other circumstances direct, but by no means force an extended tillage at the expence of bounties.

But what is the tillage gained by this measure? It is that system which formed the agriculture of England two hundred years ago, and forms it yet in the worst of our common fields, but which all our exertions of enclosing and improving are bent to extirpate.
1. Fallow. 2. Wheat; and then spring corn until the soil is exhausted: or else, 1. Fallow.
2. Wheat

2. Wheat. 3. Spring corn ; and then fallow again. In this course the spring corn goes to horses, &c. the fallow is a dead loss, and the whole national gain the crop of wheat ; one year in three yields nothing, and one a trifle, whereas the grafs yields a full crop every year. Let it not be imagined, that waste and desert tracts, that wanted cultivation, are only turned to this tillage. Nine tenths of the change is in the rich sheep walks of Roscommon, Tipperary, Carlow and Kilkenny. I have already proved this fact ; the question therefore is reduced to this : Ought you to turn some of the finest pastures in the world, and which in Ireland yielded twenty shillings an acre, into the most execrable tillage that is to be found on the face of the globe ? The comparison is not between good grafs and good tillage ; it is *good* grafs against *bad* tillage. The tables I inserted prove, that Ireland has lost fifty-three thousand pounds a year for seven years in the produce of cows and bullocks, and one hundred and six thousand pounds in that of sheep ; this is a prodigious loss, but it is not the whole, there is the loss of labour on above fifty thousand stones of woollen yarn annually, which is a great drawback from the superior population supposed, perhaps falsely, to flow from tillage. When these circumstances are therefore well considered, the nation will not, I apprehend, be thought to have gained by having converted her rich sheep walks, which yielded so amply in wool, and in the labour which is annexed to wool, into so execrable a tillage as is universally introduced.

Another circumstance of this measure is, that of sacrificing all the ports of the kingdom to Dublin ; the natural trade, which ought to take a variety of different little channels, proportioned to vicinity, was by this system violently drawn away to the capital ; a very ill situated capital, the increase of which, at the expence of the out ports, was by no means a national advantage.

A question naturally arises from the premises before us ; should the bounty be repealed ? Absurd as it is, I am free to declare, I think not at once. Upon the credit of the measure great sums have been laid out in raising mills, most in situations which render them dependant on this forced trade for work. Great loss would accrue in this to individuals, and the public faith rather injured. The following tables will shew that this is not a slight consideration.

The principal mills of Ireland, from June 1773 to June 1774.

					Cwt.
Marlefield,	—	Stephen Moore, Esq;	—	—	15,382
Slane,	—	D. Jebb, Esq; and Co.	—	—	11,070
Anner,	—	Mr. J. Grub,	—	—	10,395
Rathnally,	—	J. Nicholson, Esq;	—	—	9,870
Lodge,	—	Richard Mercer, Esq;	—	—	9,826
Kilkarn,	—	Wade and Williams,	—	—	9,496
Carrick,	—	D. Tighie, Esq;	—	—	6,996
Archer's Grove,	—	Mr. W. Ratican,	—	—	5,503
Lock,	—	Mr. H. Bready,	—	—	5,446
Ballykilkavan,	—	Doyle and Hoskins,	—	—	5,396
Tyrone,	—	H. O'Brien, Esq;	—	—	4,967
Newtown Barry,	—	Hon. B. Barry,	—	—	4,574

The most distant mill from Dublin is that of Barnahely, Corke, one hundred and thirty miles. A prodigious number of men and horses would be thrown at once out of employment, which would have bad effects ; and a sudden diversion of that supply, which has now flowed to Dublin for so many years, would certainly have very ill consequences. The policy therefore to be embraced is this ; lower the present bounty to the simple expence of the carriage, and no more ; and counteract it by raising the bounty on the carriage of corn coastwise, until

until it rivalled and gradually put down the land carriage. Perhaps it might be necessary to accompany this measure with a land carriage bounty from the mill to the nearest exporting port, the Dublin bounty would therefore stand in order to prevent the evil of a sudden change, but when the other bounties had got so far into effect, as to lessen the old one considerably, then it should be totally discontinued; and it would then certainly be proper for the other bounties (having performed their office) to be discontinued also. The present system is so undoubtedly absurd, that the rival bounties should be raised higher and higher until they had turned the commerce into the natural channel; an expression I am sensible implies an apparent absurdity, for a natural channel of commerce does not want such bounties, but a bad proceeding has made it so exceedingly crooked, that a mere repeal, leaving the trade to itself, most certainly would not do. You must undo by art the mischief which art has done; and the commercial capital in Ireland is too small to bear any violence.

United with the conduct I have ventured to recommend, in case the tillage system was persisted in, it would be very well worth the attention of parliament, to annex such conditions to the payment of any new bounties, as might have the effect of securing a good tillage instead of a bad one. If it was found practicable, which I should think it might be, no publick money should ever be given for barley, bere, or oats; that did not succeed turneps; nor for wheat, or rye, that did not follow beans, clover, or potatoes; by this means the nation would have the satisfaction of knowing, that if the plough was introduced in valuable pasture land, it would at least be in a good system.

Before I conclude this subject, it may be proper to observe a circumstance, which however ill it may be received in England, has, and ought to have this weight in Ireland. The revenue of that kingdom is under some disadvantages which England is free from; the hereditary revenue is claimed *in property* by the crown; a great pension list is charged on it, and much of the amount paid out of the kingdom; there is no free trade to compensate this; a large part of the military establishment is taken out of the kingdom, and of late years the nation has run very much in debt: in such a situation of affairs, it is thought wise and prudent to secure the payment of such a sum as fifty or sixty thousand pounds a year towards the internal improvement of the kingdom. Nobody can deny there being much good sense in this reasoning; but the argument is applicable to a well founded measure, as strongly as it is to an absurd one; and I should farther observe, that if this or any bounty is the means of running the nation so much in debt that new taxes are necessarily the consequence, this idea is then visionary; the people do not secure an advantage but a burthen. I cannot here avoid a comparison of expending so large a sum annually of the publick money rationally or in a measure at best so very doubtful; for indulge the prejudices of gentlemen, and suppose for a moment, that all the proofs I have given do not amount to an absolute condemnation, they certainly, even then, give it the most dubious completion that ever measure had. But suppose from the beginning, the money, which has been thus advanced, had been given in premiums of ten pounds, per acre, on all land absolutely waste, which was brought in and reclaimed. That sum I shewed on another occasion, will build excellent dwellings, fence, plant, drain, pare and burn lime, plough, sow and complete an acre; the premium would therefore pay the whole, and leave to the proprietor no other business than to take the trouble of seeing the conditions of the premium complied with. The following table will shew what the effects of such a premium would have been, calculating the annual produce at four pounds an acre, which is much under what it ought to be. The first column shews the sums paid as bounty, the next the number of acres that sum would have improved at ten pounds per acre, and the third the produce at four pounds per acre, waiting three years at first to give time for operations.

Sums.

	<u>Sums.</u>	<u>Acres.</u>	<u>Produce.</u>
	<u>l.</u>		<u>l.</u>
In the year 1762	4,940	494	
1763	5,096	509	
1764	5,483	548	
1765	6,660	666	8,788
1766	9,212	912	12,436
1767	6,074	607	14,864
1768	13,675	1,367	20,332
1769	25,225	2,522	30,420
1770	18,706	1,870	37,900
1771	19,290	1,929	45,616
1772	39,560	3,956	61,440
1773	44,465	4,446	79,224
1774	49,674	4,967	99,092
1775	53,889	5,388	120,644
1776	60,745	6,074	144,940
1777	61,786	6,178	169,732
		<u>42,433</u>	<u>845,428</u>

From hence we find, that at the end of the year 1777, there would have been 42,433 acres improved in the complete and masterly manner ten pounds an acre effects, the annual produce of which would be at four pounds an acre, 169,732l. all absolute and undoubted profit to the kingdom: there would have been received in this manner no less than 845,000l. If the lands were thrown as they ought to be into the course of—1. turneps; 2. barley; 3. clover; 4. wheat; and reckoning the barley at ten barrels, and the wheat at six, there would now be a produce *every* year of 63,649 barrels of wheat, and 186,082 of barley; and this from only half the land; the other half in turneps and clover would undoubtedly keep ten sheep the year through, and yield fifty pounds of wool, or in the whole 106,080 sheep and 33,150 stones of wool, with all the employment and population which would result from such excellent tillage, building, fencing, manuring and spinning. How different this effect from having in the last seven years lost above a million sterling by the inland carriage; in that period the bounty has just trebled; if it goes on so it will be one hundred and eighty thousand pounds a year in seven years more, and by that time there will be neither sheep nor cows left in the kingdom; but suppose it to stand at sixty thousand pounds a year, that sum in seven years, applied in a bounty on cultivating wastes, would improve forty-two thousand acres, and consequently be attended with all the effects which would have flowed from a similar number, the past bounty would have improved. I have now done with this measure; my english reader will, I hope, pardon so long a detail, which I should not have gone into had I found the facts known in Ireland, or any just conclusions drawn from ideal ones; but in the variety of conversations I have had in that kingdom with all descriptions of men, I found not one who was acquainted with the facts upon which the merit of the measure could alone be decided. It is for their use that I have collected them from very voluminous manuscripts.

Another measure relative to corn, which is in execution in Ireland, is a parliamentary bounty on corn preserved on stands, that is stacked on stone pillars, capped to prevent the depredations of rats and mice. I have been assured that very great abuses are found in the claims; if these are obviated, the measure seems not objectionable in a country where little is done without some publick encouragement. The following are the payments in consequence of this bounty.

In

		l.			l.
In the year 1766	---	891	In the year 1772	---	5487
1767	---	891	1773	---	5487
1768	---	3442	1774	---	6565
1769	---	3442	1775	---	6565
1770	---	4266	1776	---	6866
1771	---	4266	1777	---	6866*

It would be a proper condition to annex to this bounty, that it be given only to corn preserved as required, and threshed on boarded floors; the samples of irish wheat are exceedingly damaged by clay floors; an english miller knows the moment he takes a sample in his hand if it came off a clay floor, and it is a deduction in the value. The floors should be of deal plank two inches thick, and laid on joists two or three feet from the ground; for a free current of air to preserve them from rotting.

S E C T I O N XIX.

Manufactures.

THE only manufacture of considerable importance in Ireland is that of linen, which the irish have for near a century considered as the great staple of the kingdom. The history of it in its earlier periods is very little known; a committee of the house of commons, of which Sir Lucius O'Brien was chairman, examined the national records with great attention, in order to discover how long they had been in it; all they discovered was that by an act passed in 1542 the 33d. of Henry 8. linen and woollen yarn were enumerated among the most considerable branches of trade possessed by the natives of Ireland in an act made against grey merchants forestalling. The 11th of Queen Elizabeth the same act was revived, and a further law made against watering hemp or flax, &c. in rivers. By the 13th of Elizabeth all persons were prohibited from exporting wool, flax, linen and woollen yarn, except merchants residing in cities and boroughs, and by a further act the same year a penalty of 12d. a pound was imposed on all flax or linen yarn exported, and 8d. more for the use of the town exported from. In this last act it is recited that the merchants of Ireland had been exporters of those articles in trade upwards of one hundred years preceding that period: and by many subsequent acts, and proclamations during the reigns of Charles I. and II. those manufactures were particularly attended to; from whence it evidently appeared that the kingdom possessed an export trade in these commodities at those early periods. The Earl of Strafford Lord Lieutenant in Charles I. reign passed several laws, and took various measures to encourage this manufacture, insomuch that he has by some authors been said to have established it originally. At the end of the last century, in king William's reign, it arose to be an object of consequence, but not singly so, for it appears from a variety of records, in both kingdoms, that the irish had then a considerable woollen manufacture for exportation, which raised the jealousy of the english manufacturers in that commodity so much that they presented so many petitions to both lords and commons, as to induce those bodies to enter fully into their jealousies and illiberal views; which occasioned the famous compact between the two nations brought on in the following manner.

* The reason of the sums being the same for two years throughout, is their being returned every second year to parliament.

Die Jovis 9^o. Iunij. 1698.

The Earl of *Stamford* reported from the lords committees (appointed to draw an address to be presented to his Majesty, relating to the woollen manufacture in *Ireland*) the following address. (*viz.*)

“ WE the lords spiritual and temporal in parliament assembled. Do humbly represent
 “ unto your Majesty, that the growing manufacture of cloth in *Ireland*, both by the cheap-
 “ nefs of all sorts of necessaries for life, and goodness of materials for making of all manner
 “ of cloth, doth invite your subjects of England, with their families and servants, to leave
 “ their habitations to settle there, to the increase of the woollen manufacture in *Ireland*, which
 “ makes your loyal subjects in this kingdom very apprehensive that the further growth of it
 “ may greatly prejudice the said manufacture here ; by which the trade of this nation and
 “ the value of lands will very much decrease, and the numbers of your people be much lessened
 “ here ; wherefore, we do most humbly beseech your most sacred majesty, that your majesty
 “ would be pleased, in the most publick and effectual way, that may be, to declare to all
 “ your subjects of *Ireland*, that the growth and increase of the woollen manufacture there,
 “ hath long, and will ever be looked upon with great jealousy, by all your subjects of this
 “ kingdom : And if not timely remedied may occasion very strict laws, totally to prohibit
 “ and suppress the same, and on the other hand, if they turn their industry and skill, to the
 “ settling and improving the linen manufacture, for which generally the lands of that kingdom
 “ are very proper, they shall receive, all countenance, favour and protection from your royal
 “ influence, for the encouragement and promoting of the said linen manufacture, to all the
 “ advantage and profit, that kingdom can be capable of.

To which the house agreed.

It is ordered, by the lords spiritual and temporal in parliament assembled, That the lords with white staves doe humbly attend his majesty with the address of this house, concerning the woollen manufacture in *Ireland*.

Die Veneris 10^o Iunij 1698^o.

“ The lord Steward reported his Majesty’s answer to the address, to this effect. (*viz.*)

THAT his Majesty will take care to do what their lordships have desired.

ASHLEY COWPER.

Clerk Parliamentor.”

Jovis 30 Die Junij 1698.

“ Most Gracious Sovereign,

“ WE your majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the commons in parliament assem-
 “ bled, being very sensible that the wealth and power of this kingdom do, in a great measure,
 “ depend on the preserving the woollen manufacture, as much as possible entire to this realm,
 “ think it becomes us, like our ancestors, to be jealous of the establishment and increase
 “ thereof elsewhere ; and to use our utmost endeavours to prevent it.

“ And therefore, we cannot without trouble observe, that *Ireland*, is dependant on, and
 “ protected by England, in the enjoyment of all they have ; and which is so proper for the
 “ linen manufacture, the establishment and growth of which there, would be so enriching
 “ to themselves, and so profitable to England ; should, of late, apply itself to the woollen
 “ manufacture, to the great prejudice of the trade of this kingdom ; and so unwillingly
 “ promote the linen trade, which would benefit both them and us.

“ The consequence whereof, will necessitate your parliament of England, to interpose to
 “ prevent the mischief that threatens us, unless your majesty, by your authority, and great
 “ wisdom, shall find means to secure the trade of England, by making your subjects of
 “ Ireland, to pursue the joint interest of both kingdoms.

“ And we do most humbly implore your majesty’s protection and favour in this matter ;
 “ and that you will make it your royal care, and enjoin all those you employ in Ireland, to
 “ make it their care, and use their utmost diligence, to hinder the exportation of wool from
 “ Ireland, except to be imported hither, and for the discouraging the woollen manufactures,
 “ and encouraging the linen Manufactures in Ireland, to which we shall always be ready to
 “ give our utmost assistance.

Resolved, That the said address be presented to his majesty by the whole house.

Sabbati. 2. die Julii.

HIS MAJESTY’S ANSWER.

“ GENTLEMEN,
 “ I shall do all that in me lies to discourage the woollen manufacture in Ireland, and to
 “ encourage the linen manufacture there ; and to promote the trade of England.”

Thursday 27th September, 1698.

Part of the Lords Justices Speech.

“ AMONGST these bills there is one for the encouragement of the linen and hempen
 “ manufactures, at our first meeting, we recommended to you that matter, and we have now
 “ endeavoured to render that bill practicable and useful for that effect, and as such we now
 “ recommend it to you. The settlement of this manufacture will contribute much to people
 “ the country, and will be found much more advantageous to this kingdom, than the woollen
 “ manufacture, which being the settled staple trade of England, from whence all foreign
 “ markets are supplied, can never be encouraged here for that purpose, whereas the linen and
 “ hempen manufactures will not only be encouraged, as consistent with the trade of England,
 “ but will render the trade of this kingdom both useful and necessary to England.”

The Commons of IRELAND returned the following Answer to the speech from the throne.

“ WE pray leave to assure your excellencies that we shall heartily endeavour to establish a
 “ linen and hempen manufacture here, and to render the same useful to England, as well as
 “ advantageous to this kingdom, and that we hope to find such a temperament in respect to
 “ the woollen trade here ; that the same may not be injurious to England.”—And they
 passed a law that session commencing 25th of March, 1699, laying 4s. additional duty on
 every 20s. value of broad-cloth exported out of Ireland, and 2s. on every 20s. value of
 serges, baize, kerseys, stuffs, or any other sort of new drapery made of wool or mixed
 with wool, (frizes only excepted) which was in effect a prohibition. And in the same
 session a law was passed in England, restraining Ireland from exporting those woollen manu-
 factures, including frize to any other parts except to England and Wales.

The addresses of the two houses to the king carry the clearest evidence of their source, the
 jealousy of merchants and manufacturers ; I might add their *ignorance* too, they are dictated
 upon the narrow idea that the prosperity of the woollen fabrics of Ireland was inconsistent
 with the welfare of those of England ; it would at present be fortunate for both kingdoms if
 these

these errors had been confined to the last century. There is an equal mixture also of falshood in the representations; for they assert that the cheapness of necessaries in Ireland drew from England the woollen manufacturers, but they forgot the cheapness of labour in Ireland to which no workman in the world ever yet emigrated. The irish were engaged in various slight fabricks not made in England; but had they been employed on broad cloth for exportation, the english manufacture would well have bore it, they did at that time and afterwards bear a rapid increase of the french fabricks, and yet flourished themselves. We have had so long an experience of markets increasing with industry and inventions that the time ought to have come long ago for viewing competitors without the eye of jealousy.

The memoirs of the time as well as the expression in the above transaction evidently prove that it was understood by both kingdoms to be a sort of compact, that if Ireland gave up her woollen manufacture, that of linen should be left to her under every encouragement. I have however myself heard it in the british parliament *denied* to have been any compact; but simply a promise of encouragement not precluding a like, or greater encouragement to the british linens. This is certainly an error, for so understood what is the meaning of the *ample encouragements promised* by the british parliament? They could not mean internal encouragement or regulation, for they had nothing to do with either: it could simply mean as the purport of the words evidently shew, that they would enter into no measures which should set up a linen manufacture to rival the irish. That woollens should be considered and encouraged as the staple of England, and linens as that of Ireland: It must mean this or it meant nothing. That the irish understood it so cannot be doubted for a moment; for what did they in consequence? they were in possession of a flourishing woollen manufacture, which they actually put down and crippled by prohibiting exportation. Let me ask those who assert there was no compact, why they did this? it was their own act. Did they cut their own throats without either reward, or promise of reward? common sense tells us they did this under a perfect conviction that they should receive ample encouragement from England in their linen trade: but what moonshine would such encouragement prove if England departing from the letter and spirit of that compact had encouraged her own linen manufacture to rival the irish, after the irish had destroyed their woollen fabricks to encourage those of England? Yet we did this in direct breach of the whole transaction, for the 23d of George II. laid a tax on sail cloth made of irish hemp. Bounties also have been given in England without extending fully to irish linens. Checked, striped, printed, painted, stained or dyed linens of irish manufacture are not allowed to be imported into Britain. In which, and in other articles we have done every thing possible to extend and increase our own linen manufacture, to rival that of Ireland.

I admit readily, that the apprehensions of the irish at the progress of british linens are in the spirit of commercial jealousy as well as our violence in relation to their woollens. But with this great difference; we forced them to put down a manufacture they were actually in possession of; and we being the controuling power do not leave them that freedom of market which we possess ourselves, points which necessarily place the two nations in this respect upon very different footings. Give them as they ought to have a free woollen trade, and they will then have no objection to any measures for the encouragement of our linens which do not absolutely exclude theirs.

The following table will shew the progress of their linen manufacture through the present century.

An ACCOUNT of the EXPORT of LINEN-CLOTH, and
LINEN-YARN, from IRELAND.

	<i>Linen Cloth.</i>	<i>Yarn.</i>	<i>Value cloth at 1 s. 3 d per yard.</i>	<i>Value yarn at 6 l. per 120 lb.</i>	<i>Total value.</i>
	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1700			14,112		
1710	1,688,574	7,975	105,537	47,853	153,389
1711	1,254,815	7,321	78,425	43,928	122,354
1712	1,376,122	7,916	86,007	47,496	133,504
1713	1,819,816	11,802	113,738	70,815	184,554
1714	2,188,272	15,078	155,002	158,326	313,329
1715	2,153,120	13,931	107,650	146,283	253,939
1716	2,188,105	10,747	109,405	112,847	222,252
1717	2,437,265	18,052	132,018	189,555	321,574
1718	2,247,375	14,050	121,732	147,527	269,260
1719	2,359,352	15,070	127,798	158,239	286,038
1720	2,437,984	15,722	121,899	94,334	216,233
1721	2,520,701	14,696	126,035	88,178	214,213
1722	3,419,994	14,754	170,995	88,524	259,519
1723	4,378,545	15,672	218,927	94,637	312,964
1724	3,879,170	14,594	193,958	87,564	281,522
1725	3,864,987	13,701	193,249	82,207	275,457
1726	4,368,395	17,507	218,419	105,042	323,462
1727	4,768,889	17,287	238,444	103,720	342,171
1728	4,692,764	11,450	234,638	62,975	297,613
1729	3,927,918	11,855	196,395	65,206	261,602
1730	4,136,203	10,088	206,810	55,485	262,295
1731	3,775,830	13,746	220,256	84,194	304,451
1732	3,792,551	15,343	237,034	92,061	309,096
1733	4,777,076	13,357	298,567	82,372	380,939
1734	5,451,758	18,122	340,734	108,733	449,468
1735	6,761,151	15,900	422,571	94,405	517,977
1736	6,508,151	14,743	406,759	88,463	495,222
1737	6,138,785	14,695	409,252	18,173	497,325
1738	5,175,744	15,945	345,049	95,674	440,724
1739	5,962,316	18,200	397,487	129,202	506,690
1740	6,627,771	18,542	441,851	111,256	553,108
1741	7,207,741	21,656	480,516	129,941	610,457
1742	7,074,168	16,330	471,611	97,984	569,595
1743	6,058,041	14,169	403,869	85,016	488,885
1744	6,124,892	18,011	459,366	108,066	567,432
1745	7,171,963	22,066	537,897	132,398	670,295
1746	6,820,786	27,741	511,588	166,451	678,010
1747	9,633,884	28,910	722,541	173,464	896,005
1748	8,692,671	19,418	543,291	116,508	659,800
1749	9,504,338	21,694	594,021	130,164	724,185

An

LINEN EXPORT.

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An ACCOUNT of the EXPORT of LINEN-CLOTH, and
LINEN-YARN, from IRELAND. Continued.

	<i>Linen Cloth.</i>	<i>Yarn.</i>	<i>Value cloth at 1 s. 3 d. per yard.</i>	<i>Value yarn at 6 l. per C. 120 lb.</i>	<i>Total value.</i>
	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1750	11,200,460	22,373	653,360	134,238	787,598
1751	12,891,318	23,743	751,993	142,459	894,452
1752	10,656,003	23,407	621,600	140,442	762,042
1753	10,411,787	23,238	694,119	139,428	833,547
1754	12,090,903	22,594	806,060	135,567	941,627
1755	13,379,733	27,948	891,982	167,692	1,059,674
1756	11,944,328	26,997	796,288	161,982	958,270
Average,	11,796,361	24,328	745,057	145,972	891,029
In the year 1757	15,508,709	31,078	1,033,913	186,473	1,220,386
1758	14,982,557	31,995	998,837	191,970	1,190,807
1759	14,093,431	27,571	939,562	165,426	1,104,988
1760	13,375,456	31,042	891,697	186,254	1,077,951
1761	12,048,881	39,699	803,251	238,198	1,041,449
1762	15,559,676	35,950	1,037,311	215,702	1,253,013
1763	16,013,105	34,468	1,067,540	206,808	1,274,348
Average,	14,511,973	33,114	967,445	198,690	1,166,135
In the year 1764	15,201,081	31,715	1,006,738	190,292	1,197,030
1765	14,355,205	26,127	957,013	156,762	1,113,775
1766	17,892,102	35,018	1,192,806	210,109	1,402,915
1767	20,148,170	30,274	1,343,211	181,648	1,524,859
1768	18,490,019	32,590	1,232,667	195,542	1,428,209
1769	17,790,705	37,037	1,186,047	222,223	1,408,270
1770	20,560,754	33,417	1,370,716	200,502	1,571,218
Average,	17,776,862	32,311	1,184,171	193,868	1,378,039
In the year 1771	25,376,808	34,166	1,691,787	204,996	1,896,783
1772	20,599,178	32,441	1,544,938	194,650	1,739,588
1773	18,450,700	28,078	1,383,802	168,473	1,552,275
1774	16,916,674	29,194	1,127,777	174,864	1,302,641
1775	20,205,087	30,598	1,346,985	183,588	1,530,573
1776	20,502,587	36,152	1,366,838	216,912	1,583,750
1777	19,714,638	29,698	1,314,308	178,188	1,492,496
Average,	20,252,239	31,475	1,390,919	188,810	1,579,729
	Average of 30 years since 1748,		—	—	1,228,148
	Average of 30 years before,		—	—	417,600

Mr. Henry

Mr. Henry Archdall, in the year 1771, asserted before a committee of the house of commons, that Ireland manufactured for

							1.
Exportation,	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,541,200
And for home consumption,	—	—	—	—	—	—	658,906
							<hr/>
							* 2,200,106
							<hr/>

The latter article must be a mere guess; the first we find contradicted in the preceding table, unless he meant cloth only.

This ample table calls for several observations. It first appears that the manufacture has gone on in a regular increase, until it has arrived in the last seven years to be an object of prodigious consequence. The averages of each period of seven years are of particular importance; as there is one political lesson to be deduced from them which may be of great use hereafter: they prove in the clearest manner that no judgment is ever to be formed of the state of the manufacture from one or two years, but on the contrary from seven years alone. In 1774 it appears that the export was lower than it had been for nine years before, and we very well recollect the noise which this fall made in England. I was repeatedly in the gallery of the english house of commons when they sat in a committee for months together upon the state of the linen trade, and from the evidence I heard at the bar I thought Ireland was sinking to nothing, and that all her fabricks were tumbling to pieces: the assertion of the linen fabricks declining *a third* was repeated violently, and it was very true. But they drew this comparison from 1771, when we find from the preceding table that it was at its zenith, to appearance a very unnatural one, for it rose at once five millions of yards which was unparalleled. It was ridiculous to draw a sudden start into precedent, for what manufacture in the world but experiences moments of uncommon prosperity, the continuance of which is never to be expected; this fall of a third therefore though true *in fact* was utterly false *in argument*. In truth the fall was exceedingly trivial, for the only comparison that ought to have been made was with the average of the preceding seven years, the decline then would have appeared only seven or eight hundred thousand yards, that is, not a *twentieth* instead of a *third*. But because the trade had run to a most extraordinary height in 1771, the manufacturers and merchants felt the fall the more, and were outrageously clamorous because every year was not a jubilee one. If such were to be the consequences of an unusual demand, ministers and legislatures would have reason to curse any extraordinary prosperity, and to prevent it if they could, under the conviction that the grasping avarice of commercial folly, would be growling and dunning them with complaints when the trade returned to its usual and natural course. In the year 1773 and 4, all Ireland was undone; the linen manufacture was to be at an end; but lo! at the end of the period of seven years upon examining the average it is found to be in as great a state of increase as ever known before; for the four periods have all the same rise one above another of three millions of yards each: consequently I say, upon the evidence of the clearest facts that there has been no *declension* but an INCREASE. And I shall draw this manifest conclusion from it to disbelieve commercial complaints as long as I exist, and put no credit in that sort of proof which is carried to parliament in support of such complaints. Falshood and imposition I am confident find their way to the bar of a house, and I do not think it much for the credit of those who supported the irish complaints at the period above mentioned, that I should find in copying at Dublin part of this table from the parliamentary record of imports and exports, the export of the year 1775 erased; the only considerable erasure there is in those volumes, the total of particulars makes 19,447,250 yards, but it now stands written over that erasure 20,205,087. It is easily accounted for; if the trade had been known to have experienced so immediate a revival half their arguments would have had no weight, it might therefore be conve-

nient to sink the truth. If it was merely accidental in the clerk I can only say it was at a most unfortunate *time* and *subject* *.

The following table will shew that England is the market for eighteen twentieths of the total irish exportation.

QUANTITIES of IRISH LINENS imported into ENGLAND from Christmas 1756,
to Christmas 1773.

		<i>Yards.</i>
In the year	1757	11,925,290
	1758	14,383,248
	1759	12,793,412
	1760	13,311,674
	1761	13,354,448
		<hr/>
		65,768,072 or per Annum 13,153,614.

		<i>Yards.</i>
In the year	1762	13,476,366
	1763	13,110,858
	1764	13,187,109
	1765	14,757,353
	1766	17,941,229
		<hr/>
		72,472,915 or per annum 14,494,583.

		<i>Yards.</i>
In the year	1767	16,500,755
	1768	15,249,248
	1769	16,496,271
	1770	18,195,087
	1771	20,622,217
		<hr/>
		87,063,578 or per annum 17,612,715.

In the year	1772	19,171,771.
	1773	17,896,994.

The following table will shew the importation of the raw material for this fabrick.

* In the woollen mauufacture of England the same spirit of complaint and falshood has at different times pestered both parliament and the publick. See this point dicussed in my *Political Arithmetic*, page 152.

† Substance of Mr. Glover's evidence before the house of commons 1774. page 60.

IMPORT of FLAX, HEMP, and FLAX-SEED, into IRELAND.

	Hogheads * of Flax-seed.	Value.	Undressed flax. †	Value.	Undressed hemp ‡	Value.	Total value.
		l.	Cwt.	l.	Cwt.	l.	l.
Year 1764	32,168	112,583	53,870	129,284	13,195	21,111	262,983
1765	27,769	97,191	12,871	30,870	23,951	38,321	166,382
1766	31,040	108,640	8,047	19,312	14,140	22,624	150,576
1767	43,076	150,766	7,397	17,752	7,780	12,448	180,966
1768	19,161	67,063	9,908	23,779	14,531	23,249	114,091
1769	50,022	175,077	7,690	18,456	12,203	19,620	213,153
1770	19,432	68,012	9,276	22,262	27,842	44,547	134,821
Average,	31,809	111,333	15,608	37,387	16,243	25,988	174,710
Year 1771	45,089	157,811	6,318	15,163	9,131	14,609	187,583
1772	24,230	84,203	6,054	14,529	13,685	21,895	121,229
1773	39,750	139,155	10,551	25,322	9,670	15,472	179,919
1774	25,375	88,812	8,677	20,824	22,361	35,777	145,413
1775	40,218	140,763	10,153	24,367	14,264	22,822	187,952
1776	24,077 †	84,269	5,295	12,708	13,602	21,763	118,740
1777	32,613 §	114,145	18,212	43,708	19,419	31,069	188,922
Average,	33,050	115,675	9,322	22,374	14,590	23,343	161,394

* At 3 l. 10 s. a hoghead from 28 s. to 6 l.

† At 48 s. from 45 l. to 52 l. per ton.

‡ At 32 s. from 24 l. to 40 l. per ton, average 32 l.

§ From the plantations of this, 12,441.

§ Ditto, 4,512.

This account is favourable to the state of the manufacture; for the increased import of flax-seed in the second period, implies that the country supplied herself with more flax of her own producing, which accounts for the falling off in the import of undressed flax: the persons who have studied the manufacture in all its branches with the most attention, agree that there is no greater improvement to be wished for, than the raising the flax instead of importing foreign. It is much to be lamented, that the flax-husbandry has not made a greater progress in the kingdom; for the profit of it is very great. The minutes of the tour furnish the following particulars:

Places.

Places.	Expences.			Stones scutched.	At per stone.		Value.		
	l.	s.	d.		s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Ardmagh,	6	6	4	30	4	2	6	5	0
Near ditto,				48	8	0	19	4	0
Mahon,	4	13	4	25	8	0	10	0	0
Warrenstown,	13	3	10	40	7	6	15	0	0
Lisburne to Belfast,	9	4	2	56	9	4	26	2	8
Ards,	9	0	0						
Shaen Castle,	8	4	6	54	7	10	21	3	0
Lefley Hill,	8	2	4	16					
NewtownLimavaddy,	9	3	0	28	5	4	7	9	4
Innishoen,	5	14	0						
Clonleigh,				30					
Florence Court,	9	7	4				18	1	2
Ballymoat,	12	7	0						
Mercra,				40					
Averages,	8	13	2	36	7	2	15	8	1

From hence we find, that the profit is near seven pounds an acre, clear, after paying large expences, and that on the Cunningham acre.

There is a notion common in the north of Ireland, which I should suppose must be very prejudicial to the quality as well as the quantity of flax produced; it is, that rich land will not do for it, and that the soil should be pretty much exhausted by repeated crops of oats, in order to reduce it to the proper state for flax. The consequence of this is, as I every where saw full crops of weeds, and of poor half-starved flax: the idea is absurd; there is no land in the north of Ireland that I saw too rich for it. A very rich soil sown thin produces a branching harsh flax, but if very clear of weeds, and sown thick for the stems to draw each other up, the crop will be in goodness, and quantity proportioned to the richness of the land. A poor exhausted soil cannot produce a flax of a strong good staple; it is the nourishment it receives from the fertility of the land which fills the plant with oil, and bleachers very well know that the oil is the strength of the staple, and unfortunately it is, that bleaching cannot be performed without an exhalation of this oil, and consequent weakness. But though it is necessary for colour to exhale a portion of the oil, flax that never had but little from the poverty of the soil it grew in, is of little worth, and will not bear the operation of bleaching like the other. Potatoes kept very clean under the plough are an excellent preparation for flax; and turneps, well hoed, the same.

The following are the EARNINGS of the MANUFACTURERS in LINEN FABRICKS.

Places.	Weavers.		Women.
	Fine linen.	Course lin.	Spin.
	s. d.	s. d.	d. f.
Market Hill,	1 6	1 2	3 0
Ardmagh,		1 2	
Mahon,		1 0	3 2
Lurgan,	1 4	1 0	3 0
Warrenstown,	1 6	1 1	3 0
Innifhoen,			4 0
Mount Charles,			2 2
Castle Caldwell,			2 2
Inniskilling,			4 0
Belleisle,		1 3	4 0
Florence Court,		10	3 0
Farnham,			4 0
Strokestown,			3 2
Ballymoat,			3 2
Mercra,			2 2
Sortland,			3 0
Westport,		1 0	3 0
Annigrove,			2 0
Averages,	1 5	1 0½	3 1

These earnings are from double to near treble those of husbandry labour throughout the kingdom, and yet complaints of poverty are infinitely more common among these people than in those parts of the kingdom that have no share of the manufacture. It is so in all countries; and ought to prevent too assiduous an attention to such complaints. Those who for the sake of great earnings will become weavers, must do it under the knowledge that they embrace or continue in a life not of the same regular tenour with the lowest species of labourers. If they will not be more prudent and saving, they ought not to clamour and expect the publick to turn things topsy turvy to feed them, who, with any degree of attention, might have supported themselves much better than another class that never complains at all.

Having thus endeavoured to shew the rise, progress, and present amount of this manufacture, it will be necessary to lay before the reader some account of the sums of publick money which have, according to the fashion of Ireland, been expended in its encouragement. This is not so easy to do fully and accurately as I could wish, but the following papers are the best authorities I could find.

An account of the net produce of the duties appropriated to the use of the hempen and linen manufactures from their commencement, and also the bounties from parliament.

		<i>Nett duties.</i>	<i>Bounties.</i>		
		1.	1.		
In the year	1721		2,500	In the year	1758
	1723		5,500		1759
	1725		4,000		1160
	1727		4,000		1761
	1729		4,000		1762
					1763
	1731	5,637	4,000		1764
	1733	6,328	8,000		1765
	1734	5,314			1766
	1735	6,748	8,000		1767
	1736	9,181			1768
	1737	8,676	8,000		1769
	1738	10,623			1770
	1739	10,087	8,000		1771
	1740	7,894			1772
	1741	13,180	8,540		1773
	1742	12,561			1774
	1743	13,770	8,000		1775
	1744	14,844			
	1745	18,066	8,000	Totals, - -	453,204
	1746	15,046		Nett tea duties for	} 72,500
	1747	17,922	8,000	7 years, ending	
	1748	12,657		1775, - -	
	1749	18,335	8,000		710,244
	1750	17,813			
	1751	12,477	8,000		
	1752	17,175		Average of the last	} 1,385
	1753	12,231	8,000	7 years duties	
	1754	12,884		Ditto of tea duties,	10,357
	1755	14,292	8,000		
	1756	12,239	* 4,000	Together, - -	11,742
	1757	1,722	8,000		

The tea duties were granted for the use of this manufacture.

But that this account is not complete appears by another † to the following effect.

* By King's Letter.

† Here the tea duties were separated, and produced in $\frac{1}{4}$ year to L. D. 12,500 l. and 10,000 l. a year each year after.

† Commons journals, vol. 17. p. 263.

BOUNTIES to LINENS.

An account of the several sums of money for which the vice-treasurers have claimed credit, as being paid by them for the use of the hempen and linen manufactures, from the 25th of march 1700, to the 25th of march 1775, distinguishing each year, returned to the hon. house of commons pursuant to their order, november 25, 1775.

In the year	l.	In the year	l.	In the year	l.
1700	100	1728	5,154	1754	17,402
1701	372	1729	11,340	1755	16,886
1702	213	1730	10,824	1756	12,762
1703	430	1731	13,711	1757	15,762
1705	3,384	1732	5,149	1758	13,792
1706	1,783	1733	7,422	1759	7,298
1707	1,498	1734	5,670	1760	16,247
1708	1,475	1735	13,103	1761	9,154
1709	1,180	1736	14,785	1762	32,865
1710	1,180	1737	12,927	1763	19,463
1711	1,770	1738	14,931	1764	22,041
1712	2,023	1739	13,085	1765	21,041
1713	1,596	1740	16,973	1766	16,824
1714	789	1741	15,484	1767	15,474
1715	1,597	1742	20,085	1768	17,061
1716	1,641	1743	17,917	1769	16,216
1717	3,981	1744	23,587	1770	19,030
1718	3,337	1745	18,948	1771	15,030
1719	4,784	1746	9,154	1772	12,546
1720	3,369	1747	11,216	1773	12,206
1721	4,421	1748	15,371	1774	16,030
1722	5,173	1749	20,979	1775	15,459
1723	3,439	1750	31,109	1776	14,751
1724	5,678	1751	16,680	1777	15,102
1725	6,290	1752	22,556		
1726	7,779	1753	16,886	Total,	847,504
1727	6,701				
				Average of the last 7 years,	14,446

The expenditure of this money is under the direction of the linen board, upon a similar plan as the navigation board explained above. Their mode of applying it will be seen by the following account.

Disbursements of the Linen Trustees, from 1757 to 1772.

	l.
Spinning schools,	3,634
Flax shops,	2,197
Flax dressers,	4,145
Bleachers,	14,323
Contractors,	5,720
Yarn inspectors,	654
Manufacturers,	55,013
Utensils,	69,445
Raising flax,	5,101
	Flaxseed

					l.
Flaxseed mixed with potatoes,	—	—	—	—	2,818
Fraudulent lapped linens,	—	—	—	—	748
Buildings and repairs,	—	—	—	—	25,936
Clerks, &c. at linen office,	—	—	—	—	11,728
Ditto, linen and yarn halls,	—	—	—	—	7,642
Inspectors, itinerent men, and reed makers,	—	—	—	—	7,723
Incidental charges,	—	—	—	—	11,773
In sixteen years,	—	—	—	—	225,606
Or per annum,	—	—	—	—	14,100*

Subsequent to 1698 Ireland, at an enormous expence to the publick, made a progress in the linen manufacture, &c†.

The trustees of the linen board expended near half a million of money to extend and promote the linen manufacture before the year 1750 ‡.

But these accounts do not yet shew the full amount of publick money which has been granted for the use of this great manufacture; to have this complete we must take in the bounties on the import of feed, and on the export of canvas and sail cloth, which have been as follow :

Years, ending Lady-day,	Import hemp and flaxseed.	Export can- vas and sail cloth.	Years, ending Lady-day,	Import hemp and flaxseed.	Export can- vas and sail cloth.
	l.	l.		l.	l.
1731	1,211	1,446	1755	10,500	\$ 731
1733	2,120	1,207	1757	9,873	
1735	2,658	1,301	1759	11,058	
1737	5,004	1,492	1761	11,273	
1739	6,792	3,664	1763	9,187	
1741	6,112	3,517	1765	11,464	
1743	5,911	1,540	1767	15,894	
1745	7,536	1,367	1769	16,810	
1747	4,482	2,283	1771	16,062	
1749	7,939	3,416	1773	16,279	
1751	8,027	4,802	1775	14,674	
1753	11,481	1,909	1777	14,479	
Totals,	—	—	—	226,834	28,682
Average of the last seven years,	—	—	—	15,094	

* Journal of the House of Commons. vol. xv. p. 375.

† Report of Sir Lucius O'Brien's committee journals, vol. xv. p. 396.

‡ Ibid. p. 400.

§ This year this bounty ceased.

|| Extracted from an account of national premiums, MS. Communicated by the Right Hon. John Forster.

		l.
By one of these accounts the annual net produce of those duties appropriated to this manufacture, on an average of the last seven years, is	}	11,742
But by the other, the treasury charges the manufacture on the same average with,		14,446
Difference,		2,704

The fact however is, that the larger of these sums is paid to this purpose, and the account of the linen boards disbursement amounts to 14,100 l.

The total annual sums at present applied appear to be these :

		l.
Produce of duties appropriated to the purpose	— — — — —	14,446
Parliamentary bounty,	— — — — —	4,000
Bounty on the import of flax-seed,	— — — — —	15,094
Total per annum,	— — — — —	33,540

And that the total sums thus applied since the year 1700 have been :

		l.
Paid by the vice treasurers,	— — — — —	847,504
Parliamentary bounty,	— — — — —	192,540
Bounty on flax import,	— — — — —	226,834
Ditto on export of canvas,	— — — — —	28,682
Total,	— — — — —	1,295,560

The most careless observer cannot help remarking, the great amount of this total ; and must think that an annual grant of 33,000 l. a year in support of a manufacture which works to the annual amount of two millions sterling, an extraordinary measure. I must be free to own, that I cannot, upon any principles, see the propriety of it. They cannot have done any considerable mischief I grant, but if they do no good there is a great evil in the misapplication of so much money. That a manufacture in its very cradle, if it happens to be of a sickly growth, may be benefited by bounties and premiums, is certain ; but that even in such a case it is wise to give them, I doubt, very much ; for fabricks being sickly in their growth is a reason against encouraging them. The truly valuable manufactures, such as linen in Ireland, wool and hardware in England, and silk in France, want no help but a demand for their produce. Ireland has always hitherto had a demand for her linens, and having so much longer than the beginning of this century been in the trade, would naturally increase it in proportion to the demand ; and she would have done that though no linen board nor bounties had existed. It is contrary to all the principles of commerce to suppose, that such an increasing manufacture as this has been, would want flax or flax-seed without bounties on the import ; or that manufacturers in it would not earn their bread without a present of 55,000 l. The only instance in which these bounties would certainly have a considerable effect is, the case of expensive machines ; the first introduction of which are difficult to individuals in a poor country. But this article, in its fullest extent, would have demanded but a small sum in the linen trade, for it by no means goes to common spinning wheels, the construction of which is generally known. But if there is any reason to suppose linen would, throughout the century, have stood upon its own legs, how much more is there for its doing so at present ! I will venture to assert, that there is not one yard of linen more made on account of the thirty-three thousand pounds a year now expended. It is to such a great manufacture a drop of water in the ocean. — An object too contemptible to have any effects attributed

tributed to it. It is idle and visionary to suppose, that a fabrick which has employed a fourth part of the kingdom for 70 years, and exports to the amount of a million and a half annually, wants boards, and bounties, and premiums, and impertinence to support it. I have heard it said more than once in Ireland, that a seat at the linen board might easily be worth 300*l.* a year; it is very well if the whole becomes a job, for it might just as well as be applied to inspectors, itinerent men, builders and fallaries.

I before calculated the extent of waste land, the bounty on the inland carriage of corn would have improved at 10 *l.* an acre, let me do the same with the 1,300,000 expended on linen. It would have improved 130,000 acres, which would now be yielding 520,000 *l.* a year, or a fourth part of the whole amount of all the linen manufacture of Ireland; so infinitely more productive is money bestowed on the land than on the bricks of a state.

I do not mean to find fault with the establishment of this manufacture; it has grown to a great degree of national importance, but from some unfortunate circumstances in the police of it (if I may use the expression) that importance is not nearly equal to what it ought to be, from the extent of country it absolutely fills. It will be at least a curious enquiry to examine this point; from the best information I can assert, that the linen and yarn made in Connaught, and part of Leinster, vastly exceed in value all the exports of Ulster exclusive of those two commodities, which makes linen the whole exportable produce of that province, or 1,600,000 *l.* a year. Ulster contains 2,836,837 plantation acres; suppose that vast tract under sheep, and feeding no more than two to an acre, their fleeces only at five shillings each, would amount raw to 1,418,418 *l.* and spun into bay yarn, without receiving any farther manufacture, the value would be 2,127,622 *l.* reckoning the labour half the value of the wool, that is to say, the amount would be more than the whole value of the linen manufacture both exported and consumed at home.

How exceeding different are the manufactures of England! That of the single city of Norwich amounts to near as much as the whole linen export of Ireland, but very far is that from being the whole exported produce of a province! It is not that of a single county, for Norfolk, besides feeding that city, Yarmouth and Lynn, two of the greatest ports in England, and a variety of other towns, exports I believe more corn than any other county in the kingdom; and whoever is acquainted with the supply of the London markets, knows that there are thousands of black cattle fattened every year on Norfolk turneps, and sent to Smithfield. What a spectacle is this! The agriculture in the world, the most productive of wealth by exportation around one of the greatest manufactures in Europe. It is thus that manufactures become the best friends to agriculture; that they animate the farmer's industry by giving him ready markets, until he is able, not only to supply them fully, but pushes his exertions with such effect, that he finds a surplus in his hands to convert into gold in the national balance, by rendering foreigners tributary for their bread. Examine all the other fabricks in the kingdom, you see them prodigious markets for the surrounding lands; you see those lands doubling, trebling, quadrupling their rents, while the farmers of them increase daily in wealth; thus you see manufactures rearing up agriculture, and agriculture supporting manufactures; you see a reaction which gives a reciprocal animation to human industry; great national prosperity is the effect; wealth pours in from the fabricks, which spreading like a fertile stream over all the surrounding lands, renders them, comparatively speaking, so many gardens, the most pleasing spectacles of successful industry.

Change the scene, and view the North of Ireland; you there behold a whole province peopled by weavers; it is they who cultivate, or rather beggar the soil, as well as work the looms; agriculture is there in ruins; it is cut up by the root; extirpated; annihilated; the whole region is the disgrace of the kingdom; all the crops you see are contemptible; are nothing but filth and weeds. No other part of Ireland can exhibit the soil in such a state of poverty and desolation. A farming traveller, who goes through that country with attention, will be shocked at seeing wretchedness in the shape of a few beggarly oats on a variety of most fertile soils, which, were they in Norfolk, would soon rival the best lands in that county.

But the cause of all these evils, which are absolute exceptions to every thing else on the face of the globe, is easily found—a most prosperous manufacture, so contrived as to be the
destruction

destruction of agriculture, is certainly a spectacle for which we must go to Ireland. It is owing to the fabrick spreading over all the country, instead of being confined to towns. This in a certain degree is found in some manufactures in England, but never to the exclusion of farmers; there, literally speaking, is not a farmer in a hundred miles of the linen country in Ireland. The lands are infinitely subdivided, no weaver thinks of supporting himself by his loom; he has always a piece of potatoes, a piece of oats, a patch of flax, and grafs or weeds for a cow, thus his time is divided between his farm and his loom. Ten acres are an uncommon quantity to be in one man's occupation; four, five, or six, the common extent. They sow their land with successive crops of oats until it does not produce the seed again, and they leave it to become grafs as it may, in which state it is under weeds and rubbish for four or five years. Such a wretched management is constant destruction to the land; none of it becomes improved unless from a state of nature; all the rest is destroyed, and does not produce a tenth of what it would if cultivated by farmers, who had nothing to do but mind their business. As land thus managed will not yield rent, they depend for that on their web; if linen sells indifferently they pay their rents indifferently, and if it sells badly, they do not pay them at all. Rents in general, at their value, being worse paid there than in any other part of Ireland.

Where agriculture is in such a state of ruin, the land cannot attain its true value; and in fact the linen counties, proportioned to their soil, are lower let than any others in Ireland. There has been a great rise on many estates, and so there has all over the kingdom, but not at all owing to the manufacture; and I am confident, from having gone over the whole with attention, that any given tract of land in the linen country, if it could be moved to some other part of the kingdom where there are no weavers, would let twenty per cent. higher than it does at present; and I am so convinced of this, that if I had an estate in the South of Ireland, I would as soon introduce pestilence and famine as the linen manufacture upon it, *carried on as it is at present in the North of that kingdom*. Particular spots may be, and are high let in the North, but I speak of the average of any large tract.

But if, instead of the manufacture having so diffused itself as absolutely to banish farmers, it had been confined to towns, which it might very easily have been, the very contrary effect would have taken place, and all those vast advantages to agriculture would have flowed, which flourishing manufactures in other countries occasion. The towns would have been large and numerous, and would have proved such ample markets to all the adjacent country, that it could not have failed becoming well cultivated, and letting probably at double the present rent. The manufacturers would have been confined to their own business, and the farmers to theirs; that both trades would have flourished the better for this, the minutes of the journey very generally shew; a weaver who works at a fine cloth, can never take the plough or the spade in hand without injury to his web.

I never heard but two objections to this: first, That the weavers would be unhealthy in towns: and second, That the country would be less populous.

To the first I reply, that ill health is the consequence of a sedentary life and a bended posture; whether the man has his farm or not, it is not a little work now and then that will remedy this evil if he supports himself by the loom. I was in several of the linen markets, and never saw more pallid pictures of disease; I defy any town to shew worse. Robust, healthy, vigorous bodies are not to be found at looms; if the health of the people is your object, you must give up manufactures, and betake yourselves to agriculture altogether; but this in the present state of the world is visionary. If the weavers were confined to towns, as I propose, there would be a much greater aggregate of health than at present, for the country would be as healthy as it always is in the hands of farmers and labourers, but at present *all* is unhealthy as *all* are manufacturers.

The second objection I totally deny, for it is against all the principles of population to assert, that a measure, which is beneficial to both agriculture and manufactures, can be prejudicial to the increase of people; more food would be raised from well than from ill cultivated ground; a whole race of farmers and labourers would be employed in feeding the towns; to think that population could be injured by such an arrangement is an absurdity too gross to deserve attention.

That

That the circumstances of the irish manufacture are lamentable, when the extent of country is considered, no man of reflection can doubt, for the value of it taken in that light (important as it is in its total amount) appears to be comparatively trivial. Fortunately the evil is not without a remedy; the landlords of the country might, with no great difficulty, effect the change. Let them steadily refuse to let an acre of land to any man that has a loom; the business would and ought to be gradual; but farms should be thrown by degrees into the hands of real farmers, and weavers driven into towns, where a cabbage garden should be the utmost space of their land; and those gentlemen, who are introducing the manufacture in other parts of the kingdom, should build the cabbins contiguous, and let the inhabitants on no account have any land. All encouragement, all attention, all bounty, all premium, all reward, should go to those alone who lived by, and attended to their looms alone, not in a separated cabin, but in a street. The more a person attends to the abominable state of land in the North of Ireland, the more he will be convinced of the propriety, and even necessity of this measure; and if, contrary to common sense, a paltry board is permitted to exist, by way of promoting a fabrick of two millions a year, let them have this object, and this only as their business. Let them devise the means of inducing landlords to drive their weavers into towns, and they will in a few years do more good to their country than all their inspectors, itinerent men, and spinning wheels, will do in a century.

Relative to the other manufactures of Ireland, I am sorry to say, they are too insignificant to merit a particular attention; upon the subject of that of wool I must however remark, that the policy of England, which has always hitherto been hostile to every appearance of an irish woollen manufacture, has been founded upon the mean contractions of illiberal jealousy; it is a conduct that has been founded upon the ignorance and prejudices of mercantile people, who, knowing as they are in the science which teaches that two and two make four, are lost in a labyrinth the moment they leave their counting-houses, and become statesmen; they are too apt to think of governing kingdoms upon the same principles they conduct their private business on, those of monopoly, which though the soul of private interest, is the bane of publick commerce. It has been the mistaken policy of this country, to suppose that all Ireland gained by a woollen manufacture would be so much loss to England; this is the true monopolizing ignorance. We did not think proper to draw these bands of commercial tyranny so tight as to interdict their linens; we gave them a free trade; nay we import an immense quantity of russian and german linen, and yet between this double fire of the irish and foreigners, has our own linen manufacture flourished and increased; it is the spirit and effect of every species of monopoly to counteract the designs which dictate that mean policy. The rivalry of the Irish (if a rivalry was to ensue) would be beneficial to our woollen trade; as a fast friend to the interest of my native country, I wish success to those branches of the irish woollens which would rival our own; a thousand beneficial consequences would flow from it; it would inspirit our manufacturers; it would awaken them from their lethargy, and give rise to the spirit of invention and enterprize. How long did our old broad cloth trade sleep in the west without one sign of life strong enough to animate a new pursuit; but a different spirit breaking out in Yorkshire and Scotland, new fabricks were invented, and new trades opened. A free irish woollen trade would put our manufacturers to their mettle, and would do more for the woollen trade of England than any other measure whatever. Our merchants think such a rivalry would ruin them; but do they think the French would not reason for such fears also? Have we not lost the Levant and Turkey trade through the obstinacy of our monopolists? And why should not Ireland have a chance for such a branch as well as Languedoc? But such has been our narrow policy, with respect to that kingdom, that we have for a century sat down more contented with the successful rivalry of France, than with the chance of an irish competitor.

Whenever any question, relative to commercial indulgence to Ireland, has come into the british parliament, its friends have always urged the *distressed state of Ireland* as a motive. This is taking the ground of duplicity, perhaps of falsehood, they ought to be more liberal, and avow that their principle is not to relax the present laws as a matter of humanity to Ireland, but of right and policy to themselves; to demand a free trade to Ireland as the best

friends to Britain; to demand that France may be rivalled by the subjects of the british empire, if those of one kingdom cannot, or will not do it, that those of another may.

One would have reason to suppose, from the spirit of commercial jealousy among our woollen towns, that whatever Ireland got was lost to England: I shall in a succeeding section insert a table, which will shew that, in exact proportion to the wealth of Ireland, is the balance of the irish trade in favour of England. That kingdom is one of the greatest customers we have upon the globe; is it good policy to wish that our best customer may be poor? Do not the maxims of commercial life tell us that the richer he is the better? Can any one suppose that the immense wealth of Holland is not of vast advantage to our manufactures; and though the Russia trade, upon the balance, is much against us, who can suppose that the increasing wealth of that vast empire, owing to the unparalleled wisdom of its present empress, the first and most able sovereign in the world, is not an increasing fund in favour of british industry?

The tabinets and poplins of Ireland (a fabrick partly of woollen, partly of silk) did that island possess a greater freedom in the woollen trade, would find their way to a successful market throughout all the South of Europe. A friend of mine travelled France and Spain with a suit of that pleasing fabrick among others, and it was more admired and envied than any thing he carried with him. This is a manufacture of which we have not a vestige in England.

Under another head I inserted the export of wool and yarn, and also the import of woollen goods from England; the following slight minute on the proportionate value of the labour to the material will conclude what I have to say on a manufacture, which working only for home consumption, can never thrive.

Bay yarn. A woman, on an average, spins three skains a day, which weigh a quarter of a pound, the value spun is from ten pence to a shilling, medium ten pence three farthings.

									d.
Combing it not quite	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Spinning,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2½
									3½
Value of the wool,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7¼
									10¾

The balls are a pound and an half each of twelve skains, the woman spins a ball in four days, being paid ten pence; in Leinster it is ten pence halfpenny, and in Munster it is nine pence; average nine pence three farthings. Combing a ball is about three pence, which with spinning nine pence three farthings makes twelve pence three farthings labour on a ball; and the price of a ball, both wool and labour, in the year 1778, was three shillings and sixpence. In a war the price of wool generally falls in Ireland. The last french war did not sink prices in Ireland, but the spanish one did. The silk manufacture of Ireland has been already discussed in Section 16, and is a fabrick that merits neither the encouragement of the natives, nor the attention of others.

SECTION

S E C T I O N XX.

Revenue———Taxes.

THE rise, progress, and present state of the revenue of Ireland, is very little understood in England, though an object of considerable importance to that kingdom. The variations of this revenue are useful marks among many others of the prosperity or declension of the island, and every thing which enables us to judge of the real state of a country with which we are so intimately connected well deserves our attention.

The publick revenue in that kingdom stands upon a very different footing from ours in England, owing to the operations of the revolution relative to this object not having extended to Ireland. Before that epoch the two kingdoms were in this respect similar; but the old subsidies and other duties which formed the hereditary revenue of the Stuarts in England were purchased of the crown at the revolution with the civil list revenue of 700,000 l. no similar bargain took place in Ireland, consequently the old hereditary revenue in that kingdom is at present under the same circumstances as the like funds were in England before 1688. It is upon this old revenue that the pensions on the irish establishment are granted; the crown claims a right to apply the whole of it at its pleasure, but arguments have been urged against that claim.

The following tables will set the progress of late years, and present receipt of the revenue, in a clear light.

R E V E N U E.

	<i>Customs in.</i>	<i>Customs out.</i>	<i>Import excise.</i>	<i>Inland excise.</i>	<i>Additional duty on ale, beer and strong waters.</i>	<i>Hearth money.</i>
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1730	97,821	27,012	78,248	64,360	50,909	42,301
1731	78,671	24,030	66,808	71,410	56,439	42,263
1732	76,880	25,807	74,259	76,473	60,374	42,810
1733	87,395	24,174	76,257	74,835	59,284	43,550
1734	84,542	25,780	75,974	76,076	60,501	43,926
1735	88,321	25,624	77,241	66,851	53,071	44,201
1736	104,580	24,124	84,875	63,636	50,542	44,112
1737	96,218	24,705	74,160	65,653	52,194	43,921
1738	98,086	26,131	87,302	70,787	56,114	44,035
1739	95,428	24,414	79,203	71,731	56,895	44,244
1740	84,912	25,388	73,336	69,675	55,375	45,045
1741	93,381	21,064	79,360	66,956	53,151	44,965
1742	97,630	21,093	72,104	67,156	53,419	41,828
1743	95,893	22,086	76,910	79,785	63,720	41,165
1744	88,451	27,647	69,759	88,874	70,939	41,823
1745	86,531	23,824	72,001	84,398	67,562	42,911
1746	89,685	22,836	63,710	74,626	59,564	41,410
1747	89,824	29,627	64,164	73,347	58,803	40,327
1748	95,819	26,486	84,916	84,282	67,895	40,960
1749	109,840	31,329	88,463	88,817	71,648	42,180
1750	151,279	29,698	123,858	92,294	74,404	43,039
1751	147,366	27,484	110,219	91,596	73,892	44,794
1752	137,731	30,726	105,492	94,802	76,389	51,924
1753	159,813	29,990	108,764	90,556	73,192	52,946
1754	186,990	26,770	131,906	88,694	71,566	53,405
1755	156,764	30,485	119,765	83,311	67,155	53,789
1756	147,469	26,884	98,262	80,728	65,042	54,283
1757	124,428	28,569	84,049	73,296	58,716	54,153
1758	137,570	32,135	95,086	67,622	54,416	52,859
1759	161,578	30,018	111,018	69,301	54,742	53,482
1760	148,445	33,673	116,831	77,411	61,533	54,570
1761	150,997	39,419	103,225	86,504	69,119	55,027
1762	190,553	39,988	132,540	93,543	76,349	55,970
1763	177,834	31,893	122,679	92,842	75,911	56,611
1764	209,999	38,805	144,585	92,745	75,878	56,878
1765	213,128	35,947	152,367	87,754	72,109	57,237
1766	214,985	37,788	173,313	85,752	70,250	57,523
1767	204,864	34,259	147,411	80,094	64,788	57,406
1768	212,743	39,754	155,258	79,765	65,536	57,930
1769	211,049	40,045	157,241	83,557	69,147	58,362
1770	210,490	37,390	152,996	79,631	63,328	58,820
Average,	211,036	37,712	154,753	84,185	68,718	57,736
1771	200,270	35,712	146,329	70,743	49,160	58,970
1772	199,368	38,850	146,461	70,319	48,971	58,439
1773	232,767	37,397	151,662	74,991	53,274	59,938
1774	229,509	37,169	144,796	77,679	55,419	59,383
1775	203,008	38,010	130,104	77,251	54,894	60,900
1776	248,491	42,488	152,238	79,411	57,353	60,966
1777	251,055	35,883	153,727	80,461	57,750	60,580
Average of last 7 years, - -	223,709	37,929	146,473	75,839	53,831	59,868
1778	198,550	36,027	131,284	81,761	58,612	61,646
1779	165,802	31,717	106,070	76,335	54,934	60,617

A very slight examination of these columns will shew a great increase in all (except the inland excise, and customs outward) about the year 1748. The conclusion of the peace of Aix le Chapelle seems from this table, as well as from a variety of others to have been the principal epoch in the prosperity of Ireland. The inland excise is a revenue so wretchedly administered by the confession of the whole kingdom, that no conclusions whatever are to be drawn from it. The customs outwards have risen but little; and not at all in the last seven years, which is to be accounted for from some of the principal articles of the exports, such as linen, &c. being either duty free, or having so small a custom as to be merely with design of ascertaining quantities; and also by the falling off in the export of the produce of pasturage which I have shewed before, most of the articles of it having an ill judged duty on them. But the customs inwards is not a bad one, for an increased import, though at first sight it seems to be against a nation, ought never to be taken in that light. No kingdom ever imports goods which it cannot pay for, and an increased consumption is the strongest proof of an increased ability to pay for it. I must however remark, that the increase in this column the last seven years is very trifling. There are in all the other columns, except hearth money, a decline in this period which very well deserves to be enquired into. That the kingdom has flourished in it I have little or no doubt, it may, therefore, probably be owing to the multiplication of abuses in the collection of the revenues, which being so many cancers in the body politick ought to be remedied with the utmost assiduity.

The increase of the hearth money is a matter of importance, for it proves an increase of population clearly; which indeed could not be doubted from the increased prosperity and wealth of the kingdom, and from the repeated information I received all over it to that purport.

The whole gross revenues offer a different appearance from these particular duties, the following account shews there has been an increase, but owing to an increase of taxes.

<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Hereditary revenue gross.</i>	<i>Old additional duties gross.</i>	<i>For receiving revenue, paying drawbacks and premiums on corn, &c.</i>	<i>Nett produce of the hereditary and old additional duties.</i>
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the Year 1751	1,048,858	366,462	192,513	1,233,943
1753	1,047,062	349,557	185,766	1,210,853
1755	1,127,552	367,980	193,259	1,302,274
1757	954,668	322,568	191,357	1,085,880
1759	989,937	320,415	205,290	1,105,062
1761	1,053,939	346,649	234,077	1,166,511
1763	1,201,300	418,258	260,602	1,358,056
Average,	1,060,474	355,698	208,981	1,209,068
In the Year 1765	1,298,165	452,375	273,010	1,477,529
1767	1,295,317	471,240	318,044	1,448,513
1769	1,309,828	481,998	347,913	1,443,882
1771	1,276,711	454,955	349,275	1,382,391
1773	1,268,094	439,615	398,380	1,329,330
1775	1,279,275	404,415	428,180	1,255,509
1777	1,388,044	419,748	464,672	1,343,120
Average,	1,305,062	446,335	368,786	1,382,896
In the Year 1779	1,175,145	346,696		

These

These are for sessions not years. Besides these duties there are others appropriated by parliament to particular purposes; these are for paying the interest of loans, for the encouragement of the linen manufacture, of tillage, of protestant schools, and the cambrick manufacture.

The whole revenue of the kingdom for twenty years in two periods, of ten each with the averages, will shew the general increase, whether owing to new duties or an increase of old ones.

TOTAL REVENUE OF IRELAND.

1.			1.		
In the year	1758	650,763	In the year	1768	945,520
	1759	714,918		1769	977,372
	1760	717,022		1770	954,045
	1761	746,151		1771	900,913
	1762	878,068		1772	897,396
	1763	850,895		1773	955,074
	1764	939,139		1774	* 957,498
	1765	948,251		1775	† 930,228
	1766	990,744		1776	1,040,055
	1767	910,780		1777	1,093,881
Average of ten years, — 834,673			Average of ten years, — 965,198		
			Ditto of the former period, — 834,673		
			Increase, — 130,525		

But this revenue, considerable as it is, has not been equal to the national expenditure. In the sessions of 1759 there was a surplus in the treasury of 65,774 l. yet in the following one a considerable debt was contracted, as will be seen by the progress of the incumbrance.

1.			1.		
Year	1761	223,438 National debt.	Year	1771	789,569 National debt.
	1763	521,161 ditto.		1773	† 999,686 ditto.
	1765	508,874 ditto.		1775	976,117 ditto.
	1767	581,964 ditto.		1777	§ 825,426 ditto.
	1769	628,883 ditto.		1779	1,062,597 ditto.

Suppose the revenue a million, it is about a sixth part of the land rents of the kingdom. If there are three million of souls in Ireland, they pay exactly 6s. 8d. a head. It appeared before the export of linen, yarn, corn, woollen, pork, beef, &c. &c. amounted to 3,250,471 l. suppose all other exports would make it up three and a half millions, the revenue of the kingdom amounts not quite to a third.

It will not be improper here to compare the burthens of Ireland with those of Great-Britain.

* Additional duties laid.

† Stamps ditto.

‡ This does not agree with the state in vol. 17 of the journals, nor the following year.

§ Extracted from the national accounts laid before parliament every sessions.

British

		l.	s.	d.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by 9 millions of people is,	—	1	9	0 a head.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by 3 millions of people is,	—	0	6	8 a head.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by 72 millions * of acres is,	—	0	3	6 each.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by 25 millions of acres is,	—	0	0	10 each.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by a rental † of 24 millions is,	0	10	10	in the pound.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by a rental of 6 millions is,	—	0	3	4 in the pound.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by an export of ‡ 16 millions is	0	16	3	in the pound.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by an export of 3½ millions is,	—	0	5	9 in the pound.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by a balance of trade of 5 mil- } lions is,		2	12	0 in the pound.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by a balance of trade of 1 million is,	1	0	0	in the pound.

The inferiority of the taxes of Ireland to those of Great-Britain upon every one of these comparisons is very great; the parallel is, however, certainly not complete: the specie of Ireland is 1,600,000 l. but it is difficult to say what that of England is, the gold coinage proved our calculators to be so amazingly out in their reckoning, but in this article, including paper lies, I apprehend the greater ease in England of paying taxes, which are light or heavy, not perhaps so much in proportion to the income of a people as to the ease of circulation; that in England is out of all comparison greater than in Ireland, which would make it impossible for the preceding proportions to be raised in that kingdom as high as they are in Britain. But fair allowances being made for this article, still we may with great safety conclude that this national burthen is vastly lighter there than with us. If the advantages of such a situation are not continued, it will certainly be owing to complaints of poverty, occasioning closer scrutinies into facts than have hitherto happened.

We come next to the expence which absorbs this income.

<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Civil list.</i>	<i>Military list.</i>	<i>Extraordinary charges, includ- ing parliamen- tary grants.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1751	146,134	766,151	126,356	1,038,643
1753	143,705	762,571	152,415	1,058,691
1755	144,602	795,182	169,276	1,109,061
1757	161,223	794,364	362,674	1,318,263
1759	181,964	820,383	298,173	1,300,521
1761	202,052	997,072	281,888	1,481,013
1763	221,365	1,124,743	332,934	1,679,043
1765	241,271	988,535	275,955	1,505,761
1767	257,988	971,007	337,646	1,566,642
1769	270,040	954,426	327,094	1,551,561
1771	272,678	976,917	373,997	1,623,593
1773	323,833	1,172,723	389,634	1,886,191
1775	366,838	1,223,326	342,377	1,932,541
1777	410,904	1,112,682	410,172	1,933,758
1779	336,475	937,679	432,474	1,706,628

* The exact number at 640 to a mile is 71,979,848. † 20l. that of England, and 4l. allowed for Scotland. ‡ The last custom-house account.

<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Salaries exclu- sive of hearth money collectors.</i>	<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Salaries exclu- sive of hearth money collectors.</i>
	<i>l.</i>		<i>l.</i>
In the year 1751	110,622	In the year 1765	151,655
1753	111,478	1767	156,157
1755	113,721	1769	164,364
1757	115,552	1771	165,574
1759	116,344	1773	169,567
1761	130,274	1775	176,107
1763	144,316	1777	171,578

Some of the particular duties which go towards raising the above revenue will be seen among the following articles.

<i>Goods exported.</i>	<i>Duty.</i>	<i>Goods imported.</i>	<i>Duty.</i>
	<i>l.</i>		<i>l.</i>
Year 1773. Beef, —	10,759	Year 1773. Tobacco, —	121,148
Bulls and cows, —	29	Rum, —	161,080
Butter, —	6,809	Gin, —	21,935
Candles, —	109	Brandy, —	34,206
Cheese, —	52	Tea, —	16,406
Horses, —	88	Salt and salt petre, —	11,305
Bacon fitches, —	120	Silk, —	18,382
Hides, —	2857	Wine, —	* 104,701
Tallow, cwt. —	2,994		
Tongues, —	75		
Total, —	23,892		489,163

To lay a duty of near 24,000 l. a year upon the export of the produce of pasturage is heavy and most unpolitic, and ought to be abolished. The other articles in this list are very proper ones to tax.

The decline in several branches of the revenue having united with an increased expence to run the nation in debt as above mentioned, new taxes are of course in contemplation every session. A LAND TAX has been a matter of conversation in Ireland for some years: some increase must be made to the revenue, but in what mode is an enquiry of the most interesting nature to that kingdom; I shall for this reason offer a few remarks on the state of the country relative to the taxes which would be most proper for it.

There are a variety of objections to land taxes in general, besides the particular ones which apply immediately to Ireland. Taxes ought all to be equal, but an *equal* land tax must be a *variable* one which is at once a *tythe*, the most pernicious burthen to which any nation can submit; it is the *taille*, the equal land tax of France which is so well known to be the ruin of the agriculture of that kingdom: hence therefore equality must not be thought of in a land tax: and if there were no other objections, this alone ought for ever to preclude them. But suppose a fixed unequal tax as in England, yet there are great evils in it, a man's possessions are rarely to be taken as a proof of his capability to bear a tax; a landlord who receives a thousand pounds a year from his estate, and pays seven hundred interest of mortgages is taxed

* Commons Journals, vol. 16, p. 268.

at his whole rental ; what enormity and ruin is this ! that the ability to bear the burthen is to be of no consequence in laying the tax. When the amazing amount of mortgages on landed property is considered, the greatness of this oppression must be fully felt. But land taxes when they are unequal are unproductive ; hence the oppressions under this name which crush the agriculture of France, Milan, and the states of Austria and Prussia, in most of which actual *valuations* of the land are made periodically, as if no man's improvement should escape taxation : hence also the designs of the english ministry once remarkably manifested of dropping the present land tax in order to obtain an equal one : these are universal objections to land taxes.

But in Ireland there are others which concern that country singly, and therefore the more deserving attention ; a vast proportion of it is under lease for ever ; other parts let for five hundred years ; others for lives and a hundred years ; others for lives and fifty and thirty years ; in a word under leases of every description. How could a land tax be laid in that kingdom consistently with the reigning principle of the english tax that the landlord only shall pay it ? Difficulties innumerable would arise at every step ; no gordian knot but the sword of power can cut, but the question is whether all the principles that have directed a similar tax in England would not be cut with them : for the tax to be either equal or productive it must be laid on some classes of tenantry : it ought certainly to be laid on all who do not occupy ; but from that moment there is an end of it as an english land tax, it is a *taille*, a tax on tenantry : break the limits the great line between the owner of the land and the tenant, and who will say how far the innovation will be carried ? the most dangerous that can ever be made in a kingdom. Adieu to all improvements in agriculture wherever such an one takes place.

Evils of this sort rarely make their full appearance at first ; a land tax in Ireland would probably come in under a very fair appearance ; but the state of the country ought to tell its inhabitants that such a tax would be too unproductive to last ; the successive alterations would do the fatal business, and produce the mischief in its full deformity.

Administration have had experience in England of the loss, as it has been called, to the revenue from a fixed tax, if ever therefore they introduced it into Ireland, it would be in a form which admitted alterations in order to avoid the circumstance which has more than once raised a strong inclination to a new assessment. For these and other reasons too numerous to give in detail here, I am convinced that Ireland can never experience a more pernicious tax than that on land.

But as I observed before, government must go on, and must be supported at an increasing expence ; new taxes must consequently be had recourse to, and I shall not hesitate a moment in recommending excises as the only ones which can be much extended without any national injury : an entire change in the administration of them should take place ; the monstrous abuses in them remedied, and new ones laid. The cheapness of whisky with which a man may get dead drunk for two pence, is an enormity too great to be borne. The morals, health, peace, industry, agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and wealth of the kingdom, are all materially injured, by the cheapness of this vile beverage : there is not an object in Ireland which would yield a more productive revenue, at the same time that every shilling government got would be half a crown benefit to the publick : a judicious, and well collected excise on this liquor would raise an immense revenue. All other spirits, wines and tobacco, are also very well able to bear much heavier taxes than they labour under at present. An excise on tea also might be applicable ; but there is no want of objects ; and if the legislature of the kingdom will not set themselves very steadily to the business, a land tax will be the consequence, and in it all the mischiefs that must attend the measure.

The proposition for a land tax on absentees was very wisely rejected ; the execution of it would have smoothed some of the difficulties, or at least rendered them familiar, and certainly have facilitated a general tax of the same nature.

The mode pursued in Ireland of raising money by tontine, at an exceeding high interest ; so high even as 7 per cent. is very mischievous to the kingdom. The great want of that

country is *capital*, consequently any measure which tends to lessen capitals that are employed in any branch of industry, is pernicious: seven per cent. interest in national funds must be a severe blow to every branch of industry, for who will lend money on private security at six per cent. while the publick gives seven? And what man will undergo the trouble, and run the hazard of manufactures, or commerce, while he can set by his fire side with seven per cent. in his pocket. In England where the capital is so immense, and with all that of Holland at command, similar transactions are found exceedingly detrimental, insomuch that no industry can be carried on which will not yield very large profits; no money to be procured on bond; scarce any on mortgage; vast sums drawing out of the general industry for investment in the publick funds, and a general fall in the value of that great portion of landed property which is obliged to be sold. But the sums borrowed in this country may be too large to raise by taxes; I do not think it is the same in Ireland; and that kingdom had much better raise their supplies within the session than lessen their little capital by tontines.

S E C T I O N XXI.

Commerce — Fisheries — Embargoes.

UNFORTUNATELY for Ireland, the general commerce of it is to be fully treated in a very small compass; and the facts which I have already had occasion to lay before the reader in the two preceding sections, go very far towards completing the whole that is necessary to explain its state. Being a dependent country, the british legislature has, upon all occasions, controuled its commerce, sometimes with a very high hand, but universally upon the principles of monopoly, as if the poverty of that country was to form the wealth of Britain, I have on every occasion endeavoured to shew the futility of such an idea, and to prove from the evidence of invariable facts, that the wealth of Ireland has always been, and is, the wealth of England, that whatever she gets is expended in a very large proportion in the consumption of british fabricks and commodities. The increased prosperity of Ireland, which she has experienced in spite of our absurd restrictions on her commerce, has raised her to be one of the greatest and best markets this kingdom possesses in any part of the globe.

It is a remarkable fact which was pointed out to me by that very able politician, the Earl of Shelburne, that the narrowness of our prohibitory laws in England is of late date; from the old english acts of parliament it appears, that before the restoration the true system of commerce was much better understood than it has been of late days: if the transactions of the commonwealth are examined, there will appear great liberality, and the soundest principles in Cromwell and the leading men of those times; and that it was the clear determination of the protector as well as of the long parliament, to make the trade of Ireland as free as possible; nay, the act of navigation itself, at the restoration, included Ireland upon the same footing as England; it was not till twelve years afterwards, that the exception crept in by a single clause in another act, which probably was passed at the desire of some merchant, without any person's caring about it, which has been the case with many an american act. The next prohibitory law, which declared the importation of irish cattle a nuisance, was a contested job between the duke of Ormond and the duke of Lauderdale; afterwards it became the fashion to pass acts against Ireland, which nobody had the knowledge or liberality to oppose. In the full perfection of this spirit it was, that a bill, which passed in Ireland in 1759, for restricting the importation of damaged flour, was thrown out in England at the instigation of a single miller at Chichester.

Whenever old prejudices wear out, it will certainly be found for the interest of England to give every freedom possible to the trade of Ireland. I am convinced if this extended to its being

ing an absolute free port, no mischief would result from it; but as to a free export to all the world, not the shadow of a good argument ever yet appeared against it; for upon what principles of policy, or of common sense, can we found a conduct which restrains our own subjects from the free sale of their products and manufactures, when the returns of such sales must flow into our own coffers by that extension of demand, which has been inseparably connected with the wealth of Ireland, when the population and the power that rise upon such wealth are our own? A mercantile landlord at London might as well say to his tenant in Yorkshire, You shall not sell your corn to whom you please, you shall ship it to me; you shall not convert your wool to the best purposes, you shall sell it raw to me. This language might be that of his leases; but it would be that of folly. Would he not soon find, that by leaving his tenants to make the best of their own commodities, they would afford to pay him a better rent; their wealth becomes his, if he keeps them poor he must be so himself. The case of Ireland is exactly parallel; the inhabitants of that island, in their publick revenue, in their military, by their absentees, and in their commercial balance, pay to this kingdom a direct rent for it, which vibrates in its amount to the variations of their national wealth. While it was a wilderness of savages it paid the rent which defarts every where yield; as it improved our receipt has been proportioned, until it has become a cultivated flourishing estate, and yields a rent which marks to an iota the extent of the cultivation, and the degree of that prosperity. Of what use is the experience of a century of facts, if we are not to open our eyes to the lessons they convey? Long experience has told us what the effects of irish wealth are; we feel those effects flowing like vital warmth through the whole extent of our own territory, and shall we yet hesitate to encourage and extend a prosperity which is the source and foundation of our own?

I have taken the great line of leading principles, will the littleness of commercial jealousy reply in its true spirit, that this town will be hurt: that that manufacture will be lost; that Manchester will be alarmed; and that Norwich will have apprehensions: it is not a question for the weavers of one place, or the merchants of another to decide: it is THE EMPIRE that is concerned: the general interest demands the measure, and ought to absorb every pitiful consideration: but all experience speaks only one language even to these mistaken individuals: I observed it before, and gave instances of manufactures sinking in the possession of a monopoly, and thriving from a rivalry; of markets rising to increasing industry; of the welfare of one country rising from the prosperity of others: truths as universal as the world. And shall we deny the application to a sister, but dependent kingdom, from whom we have so many ways of gaining all the advantages of her wealth? But arguments are little wanted where facts are so numerous; to those I have already inserted, let me add the following state of our imports and exports in the irish trade.

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND.

	Imports.	Exports.	Imports excess.	Exports excess.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1697	223,913	251,262		27,348
1698	333,968	293,813	40,154	
1699	417,475	269,475	147,999	
1700	233,853	261,115		27,262
1701	285,390	296,144		10,753
1702	258,121	215,112	43,008	
1703	324,289	266,324	57,965	
1704	321,847	215,949	105,897	
1705	279,992	244,057	35,934	
1706	266,269	198,176	68,092	

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND. Continued.

		Imports.	Exports.	Imports excess.	Exports excess.
		l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year	1707	306,423	263,412	43,010	
	1708	274,689	251,974	22,715	
	1709	276,423	251,519	24,904	
	1710	310,846	285,424	25,421	
	1711	297,238	261,426	35,811	
	1712	291,669	274,845	16,823	
	1713	295,926	306,964		11,038
	1714	326,391	397,048		70,656
	1715	389,437	420,062		30,625
	1716	561,673	345,252	216,421	
	1717	469,657	429,880	39,776	
	1718	326,283	333,988		7,704
	1719	380,130	387,460		7,329
	1720	282,812	328,583		45,771
	1721	332,882	378,838		37,956
	1722	356,095	488,370		132,274
	1723	360,526	553,945		193,418
	1724	367,889	468,257		100,367
	1725	333,870	474,836		140,965
	1726	332,604	569,553		236,949
	1727	307,038	436,012		128,973
	1728	318,147	475,762		157,615
	1729	287,648	517,198		229,549
	1730	294,156	532,698		238,542
	1731	308,936	618,684		309,745
	1732	294,484	614,754		225,731
	1733	386,105	595,251		351,822
	1734	401,422	627,154		225,731
	1735	417,421	769,244		351,822
	1736	447,176	720,555		273,378
	1737	346,476	730,910		384,433
	1738	381,372	696,590		315,218
	1739	411,924	673,621		261,697
	1740	390,565	628,288		237,723
	1741	404,863	698,715		293,851
	1742	346,814	775,650		428,835
	1743	816,797	860,178		43,380
	1744	390,874	703,227		312,353
	1745	1,441,498	910,920	530,578	
	1746	532,686	796,157		263,471
	1747	541,393	748,677		207,284
	1748	464,489	906,424		441,935
	1749	567,776	1,006,045		438,268
	1750	612,808	1,316,600		703,792
	1751	664,484	1,174,493		510,008
	1752	563,959	1,140,608		576,648
	1753	561,489	1,149,552		588,063
	1754	610,466	1,173,829		563,362

TRADE

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND, Continued.

	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports excefs</i>	<i>Exports excefs.</i>
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1755	643,165	1,070,063		426,897
1756	827,811	1,111,801		283,990
1757	687,471	960,843		273,371
1758	1,050,331	926,886	123,446	
1759	832,127	931,358		99,231
1760	904,180	1,050,401		146,220
1761	853,804	1,476,114		622,310
1762	889,368	1,528,696		639,328
1763	769,379	1,640,713		871,333
1764	777,412	1,634,382		856,969
1765	1,070,533	1,767,020		696,486
1766	1,154,982	1,920,015		765,033
1767	1,103,285	1,880,486		777,201
1768	1,226,094	2,248,315		1,022,221
1769	1,265,107	1,964,742		699,634
1770	1,214,398	2,125,466		911,068
1771	1,380,737	1,983,818		603,081
1772	1,242,305	1,963,787		721,481
* 1773	1,252,817	1,918,802		665,985

The reader will recollect that it was the general tenour of the information received in the journey, that the year 1748 was the epoch of the modern prosperity of Ireland; all agree that after that peace, Ireland advanced greatly, her rise of rental will mark this clearly. The following is a review of the minutes:

R I S E O F R E N T S.

Lord Longford more than doubled in thirty years.—Earl of Inniskilling quadrupled in ditto.—Mr. Cooper almost trebled since 1748.—Mayo trebled in forty years.—King's county two thirds since 1750.—Tipperary doubled in twenty years.—Barony of Owna

* Extracted from the accounts laid before the british parliament.

It is a circumstance very much to be regretted, that these accounts no longer see the light; they have not been laid before parliament since 1773, why should a practice that had continued for above a century cease just then? If there were any trades like the *American* which did not offer a pleasing spectacle, there were others like those of Ireland, Russia, &c. to make amends.

and

and Ara doubled in ditto.—Rich lands of Limerick risen a fourth in twenty years, and two thirds since 1748.

In the preceding enquiries the truth of this is confirmed by every proof which authentic records can shew; as the table now before us marks the commercial connection between Great Britain and Ireland, it is necessary to divide it into periods, in order to see the average of each. The table contains twenty-five years since 1748, during which period

	<i>Imports.</i> l.	<i>Exports.</i> l.
The averages are, — — — —	965,050	1,482,513
Ditto in the twenty-five preceding years, — —	438,665	657,972
Latter period superior by, — —	526,385	824,541

Here is an account that is worth a dozen arguments! It is from hence evident, that our exports to Ireland have in the last twenty-five years considerably more than doubled, almost trebled; and this great rise has been exactly in the period of the internal prosperity of that island. If I did not know persons of very respectable characters in parliament, who think very differently upon this great question of the freedom of Irish trade, I should be ashamed of dwelling a moment on the subject. How would it have been possible for that country to support such an increased importation, unless she had increased in wealth? And having proved that such advances in national prosperity have been attended by this increased demand for the manufactures and products of England, are we not perfectly founded in concluding, that future advantages to Ireland will also be attended by similar effects? The influx of wealth into that country brings a taste for the elegant luxuries with which we abound, and the capability of purchasing them ensures the purchase. An Englishman cannot go into a single house in Dublin, or see a person dressed, of either sex, without having this truth staring him in the face. But there is a circumstance in this account which deserves particular attention, and that is our import trade not having increased so much as the export one, from which this plain conclusion is to be drawn; that let Ireland get her wealth from where she will, it comes infallibly to England. The fourth column of the table which shews the balance she pays us, and which amounts of late years, from six hundred thousand to a million a year, could not possibly be supported with the absentee drain, unless she made by her trade elsewhere.

	<i>Imports.</i> l.	<i>Exports.</i> l.
Average of the last seven years, — —	1,240,677	2,012,202
Ditto of the preceding seven years, — —	917,088	1,573,934
Increase, — — — —	323,569	438,268

From this comparison we find, that the rapid increase of our exports to Ireland is in late years, the stronger reason therefore to expect, that whatever increase of wealth she experiences, it will be England that will receive the full tribute of it. By means of the prosperity of Ireland the trade we carry on with that kingdom is grown to be one of the most important which we possess; and in the last year of this table, nearly equalled the export to the whole continent of North America.

Exports from England to the continent of North America, from Christ-	l.
mas, 1772, to 1773, — — — — —	1,981,544
Ditto to Ireland, — — — — —	1,918,802
	Freight

Freight, insurance and profit on both twelve per cent. Hence therefore this nation has no demand of policy so strong on her at present, as to encourage Ireland to the utmost of her power, in order to increase her own trade to that island, that American losses may be the less sensibly felt; but this can only be done by embracing a system totally new. And here it is a tribute fairly due to genius long since departed, to observe, that the relative interests of England and Ireland were better understood by Mr. Houghton in 1682, than by any later writer, whose productions have come to my knowledge; and as I have mentioned him on this occasion, I must remark, that he seems to me to have had juster ideas of trade, manufactures, prices of provisions, enclosures, &c. than nine tenths of the authors who have treated of those subjects: “The richer Ireland grows the more wealth will the landlords have, and the more will they that live here spend. I am told by an inquisitive and understanding knight, that hath a great estate there, and very well understands the Irish affairs, that what their gentry spend here, with the pensions and the rent that are paid from thence to the city of London, amounts to about three hundred thousand pounds per annum, and I see no reason why this expence should not increase according to their thriving.” — “Even in the woollen manufacture I question whether they could in cloth do more than the dutch; and for other manufactures, why might it not *put both nations at strife to find out some new consumptions, and so increase the trades of both?* If there must be but a set quantity consumed, seeing England bears up against, and in cloathing outdoth terra firma, *why may we not, IF IRELAND BE JOINED TO US, spoil the trade on the other side, and so be both enriched*?*” Here is the interest of England, relative to that country, explained upon the most enlarged and most liberal principles of freedom and of commerce. This penetrating genius, who saw deeper into the true english interests than half our modern politicians, was sensible of no mischiefs from a free Irish woollen trade: the prevalence of commercial jealousy had not then arisen to the heights we have since seen it. Without any hesitation, Ireland ought to have an absolutely free trade of export and import to all our american colonies, and african settlements; also a very considerable freedom in her exports to Europe: but when this subject was in conversation in the house of commons, I heard the minister mention one circumstance, which seemed to stand in the way of doing justice to Ireland, that is to ourselves: taxes there being so much lower that their manufactures not being equally under the burthen of excises, would have an unfair start of ours †. With great submission, I think this will not be found sound doctrine either in fact or reason. I might here go into the question of a *poor* and *cheap* country robbing a rich one of her manufactures, for the assertion comes directly to this; but Dr. Tucker has treated it in so masterly a manner, and has so clearly proved the absurdity of the idea, that what he has said ought to be considered as conclusive. But why give in linen what you deny in other fabricks? Irish linen has all the advantages of a freedom from a great variety of excises, which the manufacturers of english linen labour under, and yet we not only support the competition but thrive under it, from there being a difference in the fabricks, and as great a difference would be in all other fabricks. Their broad cloth, also, is made under the same advantages, and compare it in both price and quality with that of England; I bought it at seventeen shillings and sixpence a yard at the Dublin society’s warehouse, without the master manufacturer’s profit and expences, and I will venture to assert, from wearing both, twenty-three shillings for english cloth to be cheaper. The same fact runs through a variety of their fabricks. The fixed trade, capital and skill of England will for ever bid defiance to the no-excises of Ireland. But something was forced to be given—had woollens been put down and linens not permitted, the oppressed and ruined people would have fought redress with arms in their hands. The monopolizing spirit of commercial jealousy gave as little as possible, and would not have given that little could she have helped it. But the argument says, that Ireland having few excises will get much trade and wealth: and is it not your design that she should? Ought not this, in common sense, to be your wish and aim? For whom does she grow rich? If I have not proved that point there is no proof in fact, nor truth in figures. Why cannot she rival France, Holland and Germany, as well as

* Collection of Husbandry and Trade, vol. 4. p. 48.

† Written in June 1779.

England?

England? But we have ample experience to tell us that she may rival without impoverishing us; that she may grow rich and we great by her wealth; that she may advance, and we be prosperous. To assert because there are not as many excises in one part of our dominions as another, that therefore their trade shall be cramped is exactly like saying, that labour is cheap there, and for that reason shall never be dear; making the poverty of the kingdom the motive for keeping it poor.

Taxes flow from trade and consumption, give them the wealth to consume, and never fear but taxes will follow.

F I S H E R I E S.

There is scarcely a part of Ireland but what is well situated for some fishery of consequence; her coasts and innumerable creeks and rivers mouths are the resort of vast shoals of herring, cod, hake, mackarel, &c. which might, with proper attention, be converted into funds of wealth; but capital is such a universal want in Ireland, that very little is done. The minutes of the journey contain some valuable information on this head, but the general picture is rather an exhibition of what ought to be done, than any thing that actually is executed; nor have the measures of the legislature been attended with any considerable effect; some of them seem to have done mischief, of which the following is an instance.

By the 3 G. 3. c. 24.—Twenty shillings per ton on english or irish built vessels decked, after the commencement of this act, not under twenty tons, nor to be paid for more than one hundred, to proceed from some port in Ireland.

Bounty of two shillings a barrel on export of white herrings.

Ditto of two shillings and sixpence on mackarel.

Ditto of five shillings for six score of ling.

Ditto of three shillings for hake, haddock, glassing, and conger eel.

Ditto of four shillings and three-pence halfpenny for every tierce, of 41 gallons of wet fish exported.

Ditto of three pounds per ton for whale oil,

Ditto of thirty shillings ditto for other oil of fish, } manufactured in Ireland.

Ditto of four pounds per cwt. for whalebone,

The following has been the effect of this measure.

BARRELS

BARRELS OF HERRINGS IMPORTED INTO IRELAND FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS.

	<i>From G. Britain.</i>	<i>From E. Country.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>
In the year — 1756	28,999	1,277	30,276
1757	28,955	2,080	31,035
1758	29,960	1,370	31,330
1759	23,611	113	23,724
1760	17,038 $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	17,09
1761	20,411 $\frac{1}{2}$	142	20,554
1762	21,388	844	22,232
1763	23,519	2,156	25,675
1764	14,932	8,661	23,593
Average of 9 years be- fore the bounty,	23,201	1,847	25,048
In the year — 1765	14,587	17,030	31,617
1766	35,552	24,555	60,107
1767	12,094	12,618	24,712
1768	16,640	23,252	39,892
1769	11,286	25,847	37,133
1770	22,891	23,655	46,546
1771	12,952	26,555	39,507
1772	10,445	34,241	44,686
1773	13,471	40,539	54,010
Average of 9 years af- ter the bounty,	16,657	25,365	42,022

	l.	s.	d.
Import of herrings in the nine years since the bounty exceed the pre- ceding period in 155,156 barrels. Value at fifteen shillings per barrel, }	116,367	11	3
Export less by 16,357 barrels, at twenty shillings per barrel, —	16,357	15	0
Loss also on the export and import of dry cod, 1,298 cwt at 14s. per cwt.	973	10	0
Ditto on barrelled cod, — — — —	364	17	6
	134,063	13	9
Hake 9,566 cwt, at fifteen shillings per cwt. — — —	7,115	1	3
Salmon 1,108 tons, at twelve pounds per ton, — — —	14,200	0	0
Mackarel, 2,666 barrels, at twenty shillings per barrel, — — —	2,666	0	0
Increased import since the bounty, — — —	* 158,604	15	0

* Manuscript report of the fish committee, 1778, communicated by the Right Hon. William Burton.

Imported herrings for home consumption are from Scotland, for foreign use from Sweden. The former twenty shillings a barrel. The latter from fourteen to sixteen shillings. And their own from sixteen to twenty shillings.

Prices of other sorts of fish. Dry ling from eighteen to twenty shillings per cwt. Salmon from twelve to thirteen pounds per ton. Hake from fourteen to sixteen shillings per cwt. Dry cod from fourteen to sixteen shillings per cwt. Wet cod from fourteen to eighteen shillings per barrel†.

A STATE of the FISHING TRADE of IRELAND,
for Nine Years, since the Commencement of the Bounty, compared with the Nine
preceding Years.

	<i>Import in 9 years to the 25th of March 1773.</i>	<i>Import in 9 years to the 25th of March 1764.</i>	<i>Increase in last 9 years.</i>	<i>Decrease in last 9 years.</i>	<i>Total loss in last 9 years.</i>	<i>Total gain in last 9 years.</i>
Herrings, barrels,	379,631	224,475	155,156		171,514	
Codd, cwt. —	4,575	3,235	1,340		1,298	
Codd, barrels,	1,103	236	867		486	
Ling, cwt. —	963	1,415		452		391
Salmon, tuns	149	166		17		
Hake, cwt. —		57		57		
Mackarel, barrels,		128		128		
	<i>Export in last 9 years.</i>	<i>Export in first 9 years</i>				
Herrings, barrels,	34,986	51,344		16,357		
Salmon, ton,	2,759	4,084		1,125	1,108	
Hake, cwt. —	8,617	18,241		9,623	9,566	
Ling, cwt. —	411	472		61		
Mackarel, barrels,	2,249	5,043		2,794	2,666	
Codd, cwt. —	2	42		42		
Codd, barrels,	472	91 $\frac{2}{3}$	381			

		l.	s.	d.
Amount of premiums paid to fishing buffes in the last nine years,	—	47,062	6	5
Ditto to exported fish,	—	1,265	4	7
		<u>*48,328</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>

Before I quit this article of Irish fisheries, I shall observe that next to the cultivation of land there is no object in their national œconomy of so much importance. No manufactures, no trade, can be of half the consequence to Ireland, that many of her fisheries might prove if encouraged with judgment. There is no undertaking whatever in which a small capital goes so far; nor any in which the largest will pay such ample profits. Scotland has the herrings somewhat earlier, but they come in good time to Ireland for the Mediterranean trade, and in a plenty that ought to make their capture a favourite object. The bounties hitherto given have been so far from answering that they have in some respects done mischief.

† Manuscript Report Com. communicated by the Right Hon. William Burton.

* Ibid.

I was

I was present more than once at the meetings of the fishery committee of the Irish house of commons, and I found them making anxious enquiries how to avoid great frauds, from which I found that notorious ones had been committed; this is the great misfortune of bounties when they are not given with great judgement and care. Relative to the fisheries the profit is so great, that all acquainted with them will engage as far as their capital will admit, whatever bounties are given therefore should not be with a view to instigate men possessed of capital, for they do not exist, but to put capitals into the hands of those who will certainly make use of them. It appeared in the minutes of the Loch Swilly fishery that one boat and the nets sufficient cost 20 l. ; the best bounty would be to give boats and nets to men used to the fishery, because few are able to buy or build them. To give a premium on the export of the herrings or upon the tonnage of the boats will not answer, for it supposes them actually taken, and built, that is, it supposes the very difficulty got over which want of money makes perpetual. Before the boat is in the fishery it must be built, and before the fish are exported they must be taken, those who have money to do either will go to work without any bounty, the profit alone being sufficient. In countries so very poor, the first steps in such undertakings are the most difficult; and to assist in overcoming the early difficulties is what the legislature should aim at. Giving boats and nets to men that would certainly use them does this, and would be productive of great national good; always supposing that frauds and jobbing are guarded against; if they are permitted to creep in, as in giving spinning wheels the mischief would be far more than the benefit. 20,000 l. per annum thus expended would give 1000 boats, which would soon accumulate to a vast number, and if the effect was so great as to find the herrings regorge in the home market, then would be the time to drive them out by a bounty on the export, if their own cheapness did not bring the effect without it. I am far from recommending a new system of bounties upon an object that had not received them before, they have been long given or jobbed, all I mean is, that if the publick is burthened with such payments, care should be taken that they are given in the mode that promises to be most advantageous.

E M B A R G O E S.

OF all the restrictions which England has at different times most impolitically laid upon the trade of Ireland, there is none more obnoxious than the embargoes on their provision trade. The prohibitions on the export of woollens, and various other articles, have this pretence at least in their favour, that they are advantageous to similar manufactures in England; and Ireland has long been trained to the sacrifice of her national advantage as a dependant country; but in respect to embargoes even this shallow pretence is wanting; a whole kingdom is sacrificed and plundered, not to enrich England, but three or four London contractors! a species of men of an odious cast as thriving only on the ruin and desolation of their country. It is well known that all the embargoes that have ever been laid have been for the profit of these fellows, and that the government has not profited a shilling by them. Whenever the affairs of Ireland come thoroughly to be considered in England a new system in this respect must be embraced. It may not be proper for the crown directly to give up the prerogative of laying them; but it ought never to be exerted in the cases, and with the views with which we have seen it used. The single circumstance of sacrificing the interests of a whole people to a few monopolizing individuals in another country, is to make a nation the beasts of burthen to another people. But this is not the only point; the interest of England and of government is equally sacrificed, for their object is to have beef plentiful and cheap. But to reduce it so low by embargoes as to discourage the grazier is to lessen the quantity; he increases his sheep or ploughs more, or is ruined by his business, which necessarily renders the commodity too dear, from the very circumstance of having been too cheap. A steady regular good price, from an active demand encourages the grazier so much that he will produce a quantity sufficient to keep the price from ever rising unreasonably high, and government would be better supplied. Another consideration is the loss to the kingdom by not taking French money, and sending them to other markets; if it could be proved, or indeed if the fact was possible, that you could keep their fleets in port for want of Irish beef there would be an argument for an embargoe, perhaps, twice in half a century; but when all experience tells us that if they have

not beef from Ireland they will get it from Holstein, from Denmark and elsewhere, is it not folly in the extreme to refuse their money, and send them to other markets. The dutch were ridiculed in Louis XIV's reign for selling the french, before a campaign, the powder and ball which were afterwards used against themselves: but they were wise in so doing, they had not the universal monopoly of iron and gunpowder, as of spices, and if they did not supply the enemy others would, for no army ever yet staid at home in the heart of commercial countries for want of powder and ball: nor will a french fleet ever be confined to Brest for want of beef to feed the sailors. Embargoes therefore cannot be laid with any serious views of that sort, but when contracts are made, the contractors gaping for monopoly, raise a clamour, and pretend that no beef can be had if France is served, directly or indirectly, and in order to make their bargains so much the more profitable government gives them an embargoe on the trade of a kingdom (like a lottery ticket to a fund subscriber) by way of *douceur*. This conduct is equally injurious to the true interest of England, of Ireland and of government.

Before I conclude this section, I must observe one circumstance, which though not important enough to stop the progress of commercial improvement in Ireland, yet must very much retard it, and that is the contempt in which trade is held by those who call themselves gentlemen. I heard a language common in Ireland which if it was to become universal would effectually prevent her ever attaining greatness. I have remarked the houses of country gentlemen being full of brothers, cousins, &c. idlers whose best employment is to follow a hare or a fox; *why are they not brought up to trade or manufacture?* TRADE! (the answer has been) THEY ARE GENTLEMEN;—to be poor till doomsday: a tradesman has not a right to the point of honour—you may refuse his challenge. Trinity College at Dublin swarms with lads who ought to be educated to the loom and the counting house. Many ill effects flow from these wretched prejudices; one consequence manifest over the whole kingdom is commercial people quitting trade or manufactures when they have made from five to ten thousand pounds to *become gentlemen*; where trade is dishonourable it will not flourish, this is taking people from industry at the very moment they are the best able to command success. Many quakers who are, (take them for all in all the most sensible class of people in that kingdom) are exceptions to this folly: and mark the consequence, they are the only wealthy traders in the island. The irish are ready enough to imitate the vices and follies of England; let them imitate her virtues; her respect for commercial industry which has carried her splendor and her power to the remotest corners of the earth.

S E C T I O N XXII.

Government——Union.

THERE never was a juster idea than that which I had occasion in another section to quote, that the revolution did not extend to Ireland; the case of the hereditary revenue was a remarkable instance, but the whole government of that island is one collective proof of it. The revolution was a moment in which all the *forms* of government were broken through in order to assert the *spirit* of liberty, but Ireland lost that opportunity; meeting security against the roman catholics in the victorious arms of king William, she rested satisfied with a government which secured her against the immediate enemy. It is certainly more a government of prerogative than that of England, and the law of the empire, the common law of the land is in favour of that prerogative; hence the absurdity of proving the rights of Ireland in the details of common law, as Fitzgibbon and Mc.—— have done. Ireland from distance and backwardness lost those fortuitous opportunities which proved so important to the liberty of England; she could not claim the letter of the revolution, but she could have claimed the spirit of it.

The

The contribution of that territory to the general wants of the empire is in two shapes. 1. By the pension list. 2. By the military establishment. The great liberal line for that kingdom to pursue is to examine not only the present amount of these articles, but what might be a fair estimate for the future. To come openly to the english government with an offer of an equal revenue applicable to whatever purposes government should find most beneficial for the interest of the whole empire ; with this necessary condition that the military should be absolutely in the power of the crown to remove and employ wherever it pleased. To think of tying down government, to keeping troops in any spot, is an absurdity. Government can alone be the judge where troops are most wanting ; it has an unlimited power in this respect in England, and it ought to have the same in Ireland ; the good of the empire demands it. It is the fleet of England that has proved, and must prove the real defence of Ireland, and that island should take its chance of defence in common with England. At the same time any apprehensions, that they would be left without troops, would be absurd ; since it would be the king's interest to keep a great body of forces there, for several reasons ; among others, the cheapness of provisions, which would render their subsistence comparatively easy ; also, barracks being built all over the kingdom : another point which would induce him, is the assistance their circulation would be of to the kingdom, whereas in England they would be a burthen. But the point might as well be given up cheerfully, as to have it carried by a majority in parliament. Pensions have been always on the increase and will be so ; and as to the troops, government carries its point at present, and ought to do so, why not therefore give up the point cheerfully for a valuable consideration ? As these things are managed now, government is forced to buy, at a great expence, the concurrence of an irish parliament to what is really necessary, would it not be more for the publick interest to have a fixed permanent plan, than the present illiberal and injurious system ? The military list of Ireland, on an average of the last seven years, has amounted to 528,544*l.* to which add 80,000*l.* pensions, and the total makes 608,544*l.* Would it not be wise in Ireland to say to the british government——

“ I will pay you a neat seven or eight hundred thousand pounds * a year, applicable to your
 “ annual supplies, or paying off your debt, and leave the defence of the kingdom entirely to
 “ your own discretion, on condition that I shall never have any military charge or pensions
 “ laid on me ; the remainder of the revenue to be at the application of my own parliament,
 “ for the uses of interior government only, and for the encouragement of the trade, manu-
 “ factures and agriculture of the kingdom. That you shall give me a specified freedom of
 “ commerce, and come to a liberal explanation of the powers of your attorney general, the
 “ privy council, and Poyning's act.” It would be the best bargain that Ireland ever made.

If the government was once placed on such a footing, the office of lord lieutenant would be that of a liberal representative of majesty, without any of those disagreeable consequences which flow from difficulties essentially necessary for him to overcome ; and the government of England having in Ireland no views, but the prosperity of that kingdom, would necessarily be revered by all ranks of people. The parliament of the kingdom would still retain both importance and business, for all that at present comes before it would then be within its province, except the military, and complaints of pension lists and restricted commerce. Perhaps the advantages of a union would be enjoyed without its inconveniences, for the parliament would remain for the civil protection of the kingdom, and the british legislature would not be deluged by an addition of irish peers and commoners, one reason among others, which made the late Earl of Chatham repeatedly declare himself against such a measure †.

The great object of a union is a free trade, which appears to be of as much importance to England as to Ireland ; if this was gained the uses of an entire coalition would not be numerous to Ireland ; and to England the certain revenue, without the necessity of buying ma-

* I have mentioned seven hundred thousand pounds, but the sum would depend of course on the liberality of the return, a free trade would be worth purchasing at a much higher rate.

† The Earl of Shelburne has assured me of this fact ; nor let me omit to add, that to that nobleman I am indebted for the outline of the preceding plan.

majorities in parliament, would be a great object. But as to the objections to a union, common in Ireland, I cannot see their propriety; I have heard but three that have even the appearance of weight; these are: 1. The increase of absentees. 2. The want of a parliament for protection against the officers of the crown. 3. The increase of taxation. To the first and last, supposing they followed, and were admitted evils, the question is, whether a free trade would not more than balance them; they imply the impoverishment of the kingdom, and were objected in Scotland against that union which has taken place; but the fact has been directly otherwise, and Scotland has been continually on the increase of wealth ever since; nay, Edinburgh itself, which was naturally expected most to suffer, seems to have gained as much as any other part of the kingdom. Nor can I upon any principles think, a nation is losing, who exchanges the residence of a set of idle country gentlemen, for a numerous race of industrious farmers, manufacturers, merchants, and sailors. But the fact in the first objection does not seem well founded; I cannot see any inevitable necessity for absentees increasing; a family might reside the winter at London without becoming absentees; and frequent journeys to England, where every branch of industry and useful knowledge are in such perfection, could not fail to enlarge the views and cure the prejudices which obstruct the improvement of Ireland. As to taxation, it ought to be considered as a circumstance that always did, and always will follow prosperity and wealth. Savages pay no taxes, but those who are hourly increasing in the conveniences, luxuries, and enjoyments of life, do not by any means find taxes such a burthen as to make them wish for poverty and barbarity, in order to avoid taxation. In respect to the second objection, it seems to bear nearly as strong in the case of Scotland, and yet the evil has had no existence, the four-courts at Dublin would of course remain, nor do I see at present any great protection resulting to individuals from a parliament, which the law of the land does not give; it seems therefore to be an apprehension not very well founded. So much in answer to objections; not by way of proving that an entire union is absolutely necessary, as without such a measure Ireland might certainly have great commercial freedom, and pay for it to the satisfaction of England.

S E C T I O N XXIII.

General State of Ireland.

IT may not be disadvantageous to a clear idea of the subject at large, to draw into one view the material facts dispersed in the preceding enquiry, which throw a light on the general state of the kingdom, and to add one or two others, which did not properly come in under any of the former heads, that we may be able to have a distinct notion of that degree of prosperity which appears to have been, of late years, the inheritance of her rising industry.

B U I L D I N G S.

These improving, or falling into decay, are unerring signs of a nation's increasing grandeur or declension: the minutes of the journey, as well as observations already made, shew, that Ireland has been absolutely new built within these twenty years, and in a manner far superior to any thing that was seen in it before; it is a fact universal over the whole kingdom; cities, towns, and country seats; but the present is the æra for this improvement, there being now far more elegant seats rising than ever were known before.

R O A D S.

R O A D S.

The roads of Ireland may be said all to have originated from Mr. French's presentment bill, and are now in a state that do honour to the kingdom; there has been probably expended in consequence of that bill, considerably above a million sterling.

T O W N S.

The towns of Ireland have very much increased in the last twenty years; all publick registers prove this, and it is a strong mark of rising prosperity. Towns are markets which enrich and cultivate the country, and can therefore never depopulate it, as some visionary theorists have pretended. The country is always the most populous within the sphere of great cities, if I may use the expression, and the increased cultivation of the remotest corners, shew that this sphere extends like the circulating undulations of water until they reach the most distant shores. Besides towns can only increase from an increase of manufactures, commerce and luxury; all three are other words for riches and employment, and these again for a general increase of people.

R I S E of R E N T S.

The minutes of the journey shew, that the rents of land have at least doubled in twenty-five years, which is a most unerring proof of a great prosperity. The rise of rents proves a variety of circumstances all favourable; that there is more capital to cultivate land; that there is a greater demand for the products of the earth, and consequently a higher price; that towns thrive, and are therefore able to pay higher prices; that manufactures and foreign commerce increase; the variations of the rent of land, from the boundless and fertile plains of the Mississippi, where it yields none, to the province of Holland, where every foot is valuable, shews the gradations of wealth, power and importance, between the one territory and the other. The present rental of Ireland appeared to be 5,293,312*l.* and for reasons before given, probably not less than six millions.

M A N U F A C T U R E S.

Linens the great fabrick of the kingdom for exportation, have increased rapidly;

	l.						l.
The export from 1750 to 1756, in value of cloth and yarn was,	—	—	—	—	—	904,479	
Ditto from 1757 to 1763,	—	—	—	—	—	1,166,136	
Increase,	—	—	—	—	—	—	261,657
From 1764 to 1770,	—	—	—	—	—	1,379,512	
Increase,	—	—	—	—	—	—	213,376
From 1771 to 1777,	—	—	—	—	—	1,615,654	
Increase,	—	—	—	—	—	—	236,142
From 1771 to 1777,	—	—	—	—	—	1,615,654	
From 1750 to 1756,	—	—	—	—	—	904,479	
Increase,	—	—	—	—	—	—	711,175
Thirty years since 1748 greater than thirty years before, by	—	—	—	—	—	—	810,548

COMMERCE.

G E N E R A L S T A T E .

C O M M E R C E .

Trade in Ireland, in all its branches, has increased greatly in twenty-five years ; this has been a natural effect from the other articles of prosperity already enumerated.

										l.	
The Irish exports to Great-Britain, on an average of twenty-five years before										}	438,665
1748, were,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Ditto on twenty-five years since,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		965,050
Increase,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		526,385

This greatest article of her trade has therefore more than doubled.

Export to Great-Britain per annum for the last seven years,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,240,677
The preceding seven years,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	917,088
										323,569

The greatest exports of Ireland, on an average of the last seven years, are,

Linen,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,615,654
The product of oxen and cows,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,218,902
Ditto of sheep,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	200,413
Ditto of hogs,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	150,631
Ditto of corn,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64,871
										3,250,471

Her total exports are probably three millions and a half. The balance of trade in her favour must be above a million*.

C O N S U M P T I O N .

A people always consume in proportion to their wealth, hence an increase in the one marks clearly that of the other. The following table will shew several of the principal articles of irish consumption.

* Mr. Gordon, surveyor general of Munster, favoured me with an account of the trade which made the total exports in 1772 to amount to

		l.	s.	d.
The imports,	—	5,167,159	2	0
	—	2,147,079	3	2
Balance,	—	3,020,079	18	10

But the above table clearly proves that this is exaggerated, for the exports not included in my account can never amount to two millions.

If her balance, however, was not above a million, it would be impossible for her to pay 800,000 l. in absentees and pensions, besides offices, interest of money, &c. &c. to do that, and yet increase as she has done in wealth, it should be near 1,200,000 l.

Years.

Years,	Beer, ale and porter barrels at 32 gallons.	Brandy, gallons.	Rum, gal- lons.	Sugar, Muscov.	Tea lbs.	Tobacco, lbs.	Wine, tons.
1750			439,302		^ 179,641		
1751			700,905		130,306		
1752			513,266		191,556		
1753			784,945		140,465		
1754			987,122		166,558	* 3,574,037	
1755			507,864		199,938	* 4,154,203	
1756	13,572		815,887		163,693	* 3,424,359	
			678,470		167,451		
1757	10,949		§ 511,682		^ 104,926	† 4,769,975	
1758	15,222		534,692		‡ 117,111	† 4,958,721	
1759	16,517		820,915		129,673	† 3,662,246	
1760	13,500		249,197				
1761	18,837		341,975				
1762	18,007		656,531				
1763	22,099		691,027				
	16,447		543,717				
1764	28,935	657,037	913,120	167,011	204,891	5,725,777	4,685
1765	27,787	757,105	1,230,840	129,331	236,908	4,431,801	6,416
1766	32,440	651,943	1,480,697	133,249	297,988	6,049,270	5,938
1767	29,487	770,319	1,667,541	133,829	183,267	4,083,379	5,683
1768	40,542	685,661	1,873,273	181,924	239,800	4,346,769	5,786
1769	45,452	420,584	2,100,419	183,337	1,007,693	4,842,197	5,870
1770	38,439	437,437	1,640,791	183,245	1,130,486	5,445,942	5,129
Average,	34,726	625,726	1,558,097	158,846	471,576	4,988,162	5,643
1771	44,104	408,011	2,035,388	176,924	913,296	5,012,979	4,948
1772	47,735	374,144	1,973,731	188,260	741,762	5,525,849	4,634
1773	58,675	310,025	1,704,557	201,109	839,218	5,231,714	5,425
1774	51,995	395,740	1,503,086	171,347	1,207,764	5,434,924	5,709
1775	53,906	556,133	1,322,506	205,858	1,041,517	3,949,740	4,698
1776	† 65,922	403,706	1,888,068	238,746	680,526	5,379,405	4,521
1777	† 70,382	479,996	1,680,233	193,258	704,221	3,916,409	4,646
Average,	56,102	289,679	1,729,652	196,500	875,472	4,921,572	4,941

↓ These two years are only of beer.

§ The following years differ in another account, Com. Jour. vol. 14. p. 141.

gallons.
In the year 1757 Rum, 513,193
1758 — 618,945
1759 — 903,809

gallons.
In the year 1760 Rum, 275,732
1761 — 370,011

† Commons journal, vol. 11. page 179. || Ibid, page 180. ‡ Ibid, page 169. * Ibid, p. 169.
A Commons journals, vol. p. 318.

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The articles of beer, rum, and sugar, are greatly increased; tea quadrupled; wine having lessened, is certainly owing to the increased sobriety of the kingdom, which must have made a difference in the import. The imports of silks and woollen goods, given on a former occasion, spoke the same language of increased consumption.

S P E C I E.

The specie of Ireland, gold and silver, is calculated by the Dublin bankers at 1,600,000l.

P O P U L A T I O N.

This article, which in so many treatises is reckoned to be the only object worth attention, I put the last of all, not as being unimportant, but depending totally on the preceding articles. It is perfectly needless to speak of population, after shewing that agriculture is improved, manufactures and commerce increased, and the general appearance of the kingdom carrying the face of a rising prosperity; it follows inevitably from all this, that the people must have increased; and accordingly the information, from one end of the island to the other, confirmed it: but no country should wish for population in the first instance, let it flow from an increase of industry and employment, and it will be valuable; but population that arises, supposing it possible, without it, such a cause would, instead of being valuable, prove useless, probably pernicious: population, therefore, singly taken, ought never to be an enquiry at all; there is not even any strength resulting from numbers without wealth, to arm, support, pay and discipline them. The hearth tax in 1778, produced 61,646l. which cannot indicate a less population, exceptions included, than three millions. The minutes of souls, per cabin, at Castle Caldwell, Drumoland, and Kilfane, gave 6 and $6\frac{1}{2}$.

Upon the whole, we may safely determine, that judging by those appearances and circumstances, which have been generally agreed to mark the prosperity or declension of a country, that Ireland has since the year 1748 made as great advances as could possibly be expected, perhaps greater than any other country in Europe.

Since that period her linen exports have just TREBLED.

Her general exports to Great-Britain more than DOUBLED.

The rental of the kingdom DOUBLED.

And I may add, that her linen and general exports have increased proportionably to this in the last seven years, consequently her wealth is at present on a like increase.

S E C T I O N XXIV.

State of Ireland, brought down to the End of the Year, 1779—Distresses—Free Trade—Observations—Armed Associations.

THE preceding sections have been written near a twelvemonth, events have since happened, which are of an importance that will not permit me to pass them by in silence, much as I wish to do it. The moment of national expectation and heat is seldom that of cool discussion. When the minds of men are in a ferment, questions originally simple, become complex from forced combinations. To publish opinions, however candidly formed, at such times, is a most unpleasant business, for it is almost impossible to avoid censure; but as a dead silence upon events of such importance, would look either like ignorance or affectation, I shall lay before the reader the result of my own researches.

Upon the meeting of the Irish parliament in October last, the great topic, which seemed to engross all their attention, was the distress of the kingdom, and the remedy demanded—

A free

A free trade. In the preceding papers Ireland exhibits the picture of a country, perhaps the most rising in prosperity of any in Europe, the data upon which that idea was formed, were brought down to Lady-day 1778. I must therefore naturally enquire into the circumstances of a situation which seems to have changed so suddenly, and to so great a degree. I have taken every measure to gain whatever proofs I could of the real declension in Ireland during this period, and I find the circumstance of the revenue producing so much less than usual, particularly insisted on, the following is the state of it.

The greatest declension is in these articles :

In the years,	1776	1777	1778	1779
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Customs inwards,	248,491	251,055	198,550	165,802
Customs outwards,	42,488	35,883	36,027	31,717
Import excise,	152,238	153,727	131,284	106,070
Wine, <i>firſt</i> ,	15,825	16,124	13,497	8,933

The totals are as follow, including the hereditary revenue, old and new additional duties, stamps, and appropriated duties.

In the years,	1776	1777	1778	1779
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Totals, —	1,040,055	1,093,881	968,683	862,823

The total decline in the last year amounts to about one hundred thousand pounds, and from the particulars it appears to lie on the import account ; for as to the fall of five thousand pounds on the export customs, it is very trivial, those distresses which have, by associations or naturally, so immediate an effect in cutting off the expences of importation, while exports remain nearly as they were, have a wonderful tendency to produce a cure the moment the disease is known ; for that balance of wealth, arising from such an account, must animate every branch of industry in a country, whose greatest evil is the want of capital and circulation.

Generally speaking, a declining revenue is a proof of declining wealth ; but the present case is so strong an exception, that the very contrary is the fact ; the Irish were very free and liberal consumers of foreign commodities ; they have greatly curtailed that consumption, not from poverty, for their exports have many of them increased, and none declined comparably with their imports, circumstances marked by the course of exchange being much in their favour, as well as by these and other accounts ; this liberal consumption being lessened from other motives, they are necessarily accumulating a considerable superlucration of wealth, which in spite of fate will revive their revenues, while it increases every exertion of their national industry.

In the years, — — — —	1776	1777	1778	1779
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the above account customs in- wards, import excise, and wine duty, added together, amount to these sums, being, — — — —	416,554	420,906	343,331	280,802
Customs outwards, — — — —	42,488	35,883	36,027	31,717

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From 1777 to 1778, the customs on their exports increased, but their customs on imports declined above 77,000*l.* From 1778 to 1779 the former fell 4,310*l.* or more than a ninth, at the same time the import duty fell 63,000*l.* or a fifth; this difference in these articles is very great, and if all the heads of the revenue were included it would be more still.

It is not surprizing that the national debt should increase while the revenue declines. At lady-day 1779, it amounted to 1,062,597*l.* which is more than in 1777 by 237,171*l.*

But the decline of the revenue has by no means been general, as will be seen by the following table of articles, which have been upon the rise.

In the years,	—	—	1776	1777	1778	1779
			<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
Ale licences,	—	—	7,272	7,182	7,363	7,511
Wine and strong water ditto,	—	—	19,563	19,984	20,823	20,298
Hearth money,	—	—	60,966	60,580	61,645	60,617
Tea duty residues,	—	—	4,404	4,590	7,300	5,747
Tobacco,	—	—	58,046	51,453	47,698	52,558
Strong waters, third,	—	—	5,659	18,586	18,782	18,233
Stamps,	—	—	19,725	20,784	21,174	21,316
Hops,	—	—	2,141	3,984	2,427	4,012

All of which, except the article of stamps, are laid upon the great consumption of the common people; whatever distress, therefore, is marked by a falling revenue, the lower classes do not seem, fortunately, to have suffered proportionably with the higher ones. But let us farther enquire how far the declension of revenue is owing to an increase of poverty; and how far to a forced artificial measure, that of associations for non-import. These have been very general in Ireland during 1779, and must have had a considerable effect. In order to understand the question, the facts themselves must be seen; the following tables will explain them. The revenue of Ireland, is raised chiefly on the import of spirits, tea, wine, tobacco and sugar.

	Coals.	Muscovado sugar.	Brandy.	Geneva.	Rum.
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Gallons.</i>	<i>Gallons.</i>	<i>Gallons.</i>
In the year 1776	217,938	238,746	403,706	153,430	1,888,068
1777	240,893	193,258	479,996	137,474	1,680,233
1778	237,101	139,816	226,434	144,438	1,234,502
1779	219,992	145,540	180,705	87,423	1,183,865

	Tea. Bohea.	Tea. Green.	Wines of all sorts.	Tobacco.
	<i>lb.</i>	<i>lb.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>lb.</i>
In the year 1776	308,558	371,968	5,075	5,379,405
1777	359,475	344,726	5,129	3,916,409
1778	336,470	479,115	4,319	3,629,056
1779	402,594	375,269	2,806	4,038,479

The great decline is in spirits and wine. Tea has not fallen upon the whole; and tobacco in 1779 is superior to 1778. Sugar since 1776 is much fallen, but from 1778 to 1779 there is a rise. Coals are tolerably equal. The strongest circumstance is that of wine, which has fallen very greatly indeed. The principal cause of the decline of the revenue is to be found in

in these imports. The remark I made before seems to be strongly confirmed, that the distress of Ireland seems more to have affected the higher than the lower classes; wine, green tea and brandy, are fallen off considerably, but tobacco, bohea tea, and muscovado sugar, are increased from 1778 to 1779. This is strongly confirmed by the import of loaf sugar having fallen while muscovado has risen: the loaf in 1776 is 8,907 cwt. in 1777 it is 15,928 cwt. in 1778 it is 12,365 cwt. but in 1779 it is only 5,931 cwt. Other instances may be produced: imported millinery, a mere article of luxury for people of fashion, has fallen greatly: English beer, consumed by the better ranks, declines much, but hops for Irish beer, which is drank by the lower ones, has risen exceedingly.

	Hops.	Millinery ware.	Beer.
	Cwt.	Value. l.	Barrels.
In the year 1776	9,694	13,758	65,922
1777	18,067	16,881	70,382
1778	10,974	15,667	68,960
1779	18,191	8,317	47,437

From this circumstance I draw a very strong conclusion, that rents are not paid as well as they ought, and that tenants and agents make a pretence of bad times to an extent far beyond the fact. The common expression of *bad times* does some mischief of this kind in England, but in Ireland it is much more effective, especially in excuses sent to absentees instead of remittances.

The great decline of the import of British manufactures and goods, which is remarkable, must be attributed to the non-import associations bearing particularly against them; they have dropped so much, that we may hope the Irish manufactures, they have interfered with, may have risen in consequence.

		New drapery.	Old drapery.	Muslin.	Silk manufac.
		Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	lb.
In the year —	1776	676,485	290,215	116,552	17,326
	1777	731,819	381,330	162,563	24,187
	1778	741,426	378,017	121,934	27,223
	1779	270,839	176,196	44,507	15,794

In most of these articles we find such a decline of import, that there is no wonder the revenue should have suffered. If it is said, that this decreased import is to be attributed to a preceding poverty, it will only throw back the period of enquiry into the years discussed in a preceding section, and from which no national decline can by any means be deduced.

Some articles of import, however, contain such a decline, as induces me to think there must be more distress than appears from others. The following are the objects I fix on.

	Flax-feed.	Hemp-feed.	Clover-feed.	Raw silk.	Cotton wool.	Mohair yarn.
	Hbds.	Hbds.	Cwt.	lb.	Cwt.	lb.
Year 1776	24,077	150	4,648	41,594	3,860	29,345
1777	32,613	159	5,988	54,043	4,569	27,424
1778	37,211	106	5,664	51,873	4,565	18,327
1779	20,419	69	3,852	29,633	1,345	4,552

These

These are demanded by the agriculture, or the manufactures of the kingdom, and are the last that ought to fall.

The declension in the trade of Ireland is not, however, in imports only, there is a great decline in many export articles, enough to convince any one that all is not right in that country; the following particulars will shew this.

	<i>Beef.</i>	<i>Hides.</i>	<i>Tallow.</i>	<i>Butter.</i>	<i>Pork.</i>	<i>Hog's lard.</i>	<i>Candles.</i>
	<i>barrels.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>barrels.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>
In the year 1776	203,685	108,574	50,549	272,411	72,714	3,216	3,155
1777	168,578	84,391	48,502	264,181	72,931	2,981	1,764
1778	190,695	79,531	38,450	248,144	77,612	3,428	938
1779	138,918	55,823	41,384	227,829	70,066	3,527	1,827

It is some consolation that hogs have not experienced the declension which has attended oxen and cows. The article beef puzzles me, I have been informed, that for these two years, all government contracts for beef, &c. have not been entered on the customhouse books, by an order of Mr. Gordon, the surveyor general; if this is the fact it accounts for the heaviest articles in this declension. The circumstance that the export of ox horns has scarcely declined at all; that the export of ox guts has greatly increased, and that glew has risen, would justify one in supposing that something of this sort must have affected the accounts of beef, &c.

	<i>Ox horns.</i>	<i>Ox guts.</i>	<i>Glew.</i>
	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>
In the year 1776	577	141	1,025
1777	338	243	1,215
1778	928	171	1,127
1779	896	350	1,154*

I need not observe, that the greatest export of provisions from Ireland by far is to Great Britain, especially in time of war: now the accounts which have been laid on the table of our house of commons do not admit the same conclusions as the Irish accounts, owing probably to some circumstances with which we are not fully acquainted, if not to the identical one I have mentioned. The following particulars are extracted from the accounts brought in by Lord North.

* The preceding tables in this section are taken from a MS. account of exp. and imp. communicated by William Eden, Esq.

IMPORTS

IMPORTS FROM IRELAND.

	<i>Value of beef.</i>	<i>Value of butter.</i>	<i>Value of tallow.</i>	<i>Value of pork.</i>
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1768	55,802	173,259	52,557	28,609
1769	55,107	260,357	45,635	18,544
1770	51,695	149,464	44,928	22,240
1771	64,072	236,403	43,274	25,504
1772	48,434	204,810	17,419	22,401
1773	45,364	229,528	43,230	30,198
1774	46,064	211,152	38,247	21,836
1775	50,299	245,624	46,398	40,358
1776	95,194	237,926	48,072	42,737
1777	106,915	274,535	41,695	29,575
1778	106,202	210,986	39,209	37,981

As far as this account comes, for the year 1779 is not in it, here is almost every appearance of increase, or at least the decline where there is any, is much too inconsiderable to found any conclusions on. Let us examine manufactured exports from the same account.

	<i>Linen.</i>		<i>Linen yarn raw.</i>		<i>Bay yarn.</i>	
	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>lb.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
In the year 1768	15,249,248	500,778	4,794,926	209,778	21,043	47,426
1769	16,496,271	549,875	4,107,478	179,702	19,332	43,580
1770	18,195,087	606,502	5,240,687	229,280	19,903	44,864
1771	20,622,217	687,407	4,035,756	176,564	18,588	41,894
1772	19,171,771	639,059	3,608,424	157,649	14,828	33,421
1773	17,876,617	595,887	3,082,274	134,869	11,073	24,964
1774	21,447,198	714,906	4,660,833	203,911	12,549	28,289
1775	21,916,171	730,534	4,363,582	190,906	13,882	31,294
1776	20,943,847	698,128	3,914,351	171,252	18,091	40,778
1777	21,132,548	704,418	3,198,437	139,931	17,897	40,269
1778	18,869,447	628,981	3,788,603	165,751	15,053	33,870

From hence we find that these articles have not fallen off so much as might from many reasons have been expected. Linen yarn has risen from 1777 to 1778 considerably. Cloth has fallen, but not enough to give any alarm. From 1770 to 1771 in linen yarn was almost as great a fall without any ill effects ensuing. The following table contains the total export from Ireland.

EXPORT

EXPORT of LINEN, YARN, &c.

	<i>Linen cloth.</i>	<i>Linen yarn.</i>	<i>Worsted yarn.</i>
	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Cwt</i>	<i>Stones.</i>
In the year 1776	20,502,587	36,152	86,527
1777	19,714,638	29,698	114,703
1778	21,945,729	28,108	122,755
1779	18,836,042	35,673	100,939

Which does not mark any such decline as happened upon the bankruptcy of Mr. Fordyce. It is remarkable from these two accounts how great a proportion of the exported linen of Ireland is taken off by England, in the year 1776 it absorbed the whole. Indeed it appears to have more than done it, which apparent error arises from the Irish accounts ending at Lady day, and the English ones the 31st of December. But in order to explain this business as much as possible, I shall in the next place insert the English account of all the exports and imports to and from Ireland.

	<i>Exports to Ireland of English manufacture, foreign goods and merchandize, in and out of time, and exported from Scotland.</i>	<i>Goods and merchandize imported from Ireland to England.</i>	<i>Balance against Ireland.</i>
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1768	2,248,314	1,226,094	1,022,220
1769	2,347,801	1,542,253	805,548
1770	2,544,737	1,358,899	1,185,838
1771	2,436,853	1,547,237	889,616
1772	2,396,152	1,416,285	979,867
1773	2,123,705	1,392,759	730,946
1774	2,414,666	1,573,345	841,321
1775	2,401,686	1,641,069	760,617
1776	2,461,290	1,654,226	807,064
1777	2,211,689	1,639,871	571,818
1778	1,731,808	1,510,881	220,927

In the year 1768, the export and import between Scotland and Ireland is not included, but in the rest it is. This table is drawn from the accounts laid before parliament at the close of the sessions of 1778, relative to the valuation here followed of the customhouse, I should remark it has been supposed, that the *real* balance is in favour of Ireland, notwithstanding the valuation speaks the contrary, and Lord North in December last gave this as his information to the house of commons. But taking the account as it stands here, it must evidently appear that the distresses which have come upon Ireland within the last year or two, do not in the smallest degree originate in her commercial connections with England, for during the last nine or ten years her balance has grown less and less. From 1776 to 77 it
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sunk 230,000 l.; and from 77 to 78 it fell 350,000 l. If therefore Ireland was prosperous while she paid us a balance of 7, 8, and 900,000 l. a year, surely she ought not to be more distressed under less than a fourth of it? That kingdom must upon the face of this account have had a superlucration of wealth arising of late years upon this trade to a very great amount. But this account does not include the year 1779, of which upon the general payments between the two kingdoms I have no other authority than to mention the course of exchange. Mr. Eden observes (*Four letters to the Earl of Carlisle*) that during the year 1778 and 1779, the exchange of Dublin on London has varied from $5\frac{1}{4}$ to $7\frac{1}{8}$ par. is $8\frac{1}{4}$. October 27, 1779 it was at $6\frac{1}{4}$, which is remarkably low, and proves that Ireland must have been accumulating wealth through that period.

The reader will naturally remark, that these are all external authorities: some of them seem to mark a distress in Ireland, but others speak very strongly a direct contrary language; it remains to be observed, that the interior authorities have been much insisted on. It has been asserted, and by very respectable persons, that rents have fallen, lands untenanted, prices low*, people unemployed, and poverty universal. The misfortune of these circumstances when produced as argument, is that they admit no proof. I ask for figures and you give me anecdote: my lord, this is ruined—the duke of t'other cannot afford to live at Dublin, the earl of A. has no remittances, Mr. C. has 18,000 l. arrears. This is a repetition of the complaints which the english house of commons heard so much of in 1773. I am very far from denying them, but only desire that *assertions* may not be accepted as *proofs*. They are national complaints when a new system of policy is called for, the palpable consequence of which is, that they are exaggerated—such complaints always were, and always will exceed the truth.

Let it not however be imagined, that I contend Ireland suffers none, or very little distress: while we see very great distresses in England we need not wonder that Ireland should, though in a less degree, suffer likewise. We see the funds have in a few years fallen 27 per cent. The years purchase of land reduced from 33 to 23. The prices of all products fallen from 30 to 100 per cent. Wheat from 7s. to 3s. a bushel; other grain in proportion. Wool from 18s. to 12s. all greatly owing to the scarcity of money arising from the high interest paid for the publick loans: I can hardly conceive those operations to have drawn money from the channels of industry in every part of this island, without likewise affecting our neighbour, much of whose national industry was, if not *supported*, at least much assisted by english capitals. Therefore, from reasoning, I should suppose they must have been somewhat distressed, but the preceding facts will not permit me to imagine that distress to be any thing like what is represented, at the same time that they shew it is in many articles wearing out even while the complaints are loudest.

Admitting some distress, and connecting it with the general state of the kingdom rather than peculiarly to the present moment, I may be asked *to what is it owing?* The preceding sections have been an answer to that question, but to bring their result into a very short compass I should here observe, that the causes which have impeded the progress of irish prosperity are,

- I. The oppression of the catholics, which by loading the industry of two millions of subjects have done more to retard the progress of the kingdom than all other causes put together.
- II. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, which by changing a beneficial pasturage to an execrable tillage at a heavy expence to the publick, has done much mischief to the kingdom, besides involving it in debt.

* January 24, 1780. I have this minute received from my very obliging friend Mr. Bolton (member for Waterford) the following note:

“Butter has been here (Waterford) all this winter at 42s. per cwt. Pork at the beginning of the “winter 23s. to 23s. 9d. from that it rose by degrees, and is now 26s. 6d. per cwt.” The butter is very low, lower than for ten years; but pork keeps up its price. At Limerick the minutes shew that 29s. 3d. is a very high price, and that 12s. was the price only eleven years ago. I am yet in hope, from an expression in Mr. Bolton's letter, to receive the price of other commodities before the work is entirely finished at press.

- III. The perpetual interference of parliament in every branch of domestic industry, either for laying restrictions or giving bounties, but always doing mischief.
- IV. The mode of conducting the linen manufacture, which by spreading over all the north has annihilated agriculture throughout a fourth part of the kingdom, and taken from a great and flourishing manufacture the usual effect of being an *encouragement* to every branch of husbandry.
- V. The stoppage of emigrations for five years which has accumulated a surplus of population, and thereby distressed those who are rivalled by their staying at home*.
- VI. The ill judged restrictions laid by Great Britain on the commerce of Ireland which have prevented the general industry of the country from being animated proportionably with that of others.
- VII. The great drain of the rents of absentees estates being remitted to England which has an effect, but I believe not quite so mischievous as commonly supposed.

Is it upon the whole to be concluded, relative to the present moment, that the freedom of trade now giving to Ireland, is a wrong measure? I by no means either think or assert such an opinion. In the preceding sections I have repeatedly endeavoured to shew, that no policy was ever more absurd than the restricting system of England, which has been as prejudicial to herself as to Ireland; but because a measure is wise and prudent, is it proper to admit for truths facts which do not appear to be founded? the question of political prudence is a question only of the moment; but to admit circumstances to speak a national declension, which prove no such thing, is laying the foundation of future deception; it is bringing false principles into the political science, in a point than which none can be more important, ascertaining the circumstances relative to all future cases as well as the present, which prove the prosperity or declension of a kingdom. And here the reader will, I hope, pardon a digression on the conduct of one set of men in the present noise of distress; it is a circumstance in the state of Ireland, that should make more impression upon the country gentlemen of that kingdom than does: they have united with merchants and manufacturers in the violent cry for a free trade, and they have regularly in parliament promoted all those visionary and expensive projects set on foot by interested people, for giving premiums and bounties, to the amount of above an hundred thousand pounds a year, and which alone accounts for the whole of that national debt, and declining revenue, which will make many new taxes necessary. The Irish are a grateful and a loyal people, and will not receive this free trade without making a return for it; that can only be in taxation; nay, they already speak in parliament of a return. Thus have the country gentlemen of that kingdom been such dupes, as to agree to measures for running themselves in debt, and have joined in the cry for a favour, which I have shewn cannot be of any considerable use perhaps for half a century, but for which they are immediately to pay a solid return, and if that return takes the shape of a land tax, they have nobody to thank but themselves. What I would conclude from this is, and would urge it as a lesson for the future, that it is always for the benefit of the landed interest to BE QUIET. Let merchants and manufacturers complain, riot, associate, and do what ever they please, but never unite with them, restrain but never inflame them. The whole tenour of the preceding minutes proves that Ireland has flourished for these last thirty years to an uncommon degree, I believe more than any

* This single circumstance is sufficient to account for any distress that may be found in the north. Men who emigrate are from the nature of the circumstance the most active, hardy, daring, bold, and resolute spirits, and probably the most mischievous also. The intelligence in the minutes, speaks that language; it was every year the loose, disorderly, worthless fellows that emigrated; upon an average of twenty years the number was four or five thousand; but from the great increasing population of the country, the number in the four or five years last past, would have been greater. At any rate here must be from twenty-five to forty thousand of the most disorderly worthless spirits accumulated, much against their wills, at home, and are fully sufficient to account for violence and riots, much more for clamour and complaint.

country in Europe. Was not this enough? Was not this a reason for being silent and still? Why submit to a temporary distress, rather than by loud complaints, bring the state and situation of your country into question at all? Why demand useless favours in order to pay solid returns? During the whole flow of your prosperity what have been the additional burthens laid on you in taxation? Every country in Europe has added to those burthens considerably, England immensely, but you not at all, or to so trifling an amount as to be the same thing. Could your most sanguine hopes picture a more happy situation? And yet to yourselves are you indebted for bounties on the carriage of corn, for premiums on corn stands, for ideal navigations through bogs to convey turf to Whitehaven, for collieries where there is no coal, for bridges where there are no rivers, navigable cuts where there is no water, harbours where there are no ships, and churches where there are no congregations*. Party may have dictated such measures, in order to render government poor and dependent; but rely on it, such a conduct was for their own, not your advantage, as the absolute necessity of new taxes will most feelingly convince you. Thus have you been duped by one set into measures, which have impoverished the publick and burthened you with a debt; and because another description of men suffer a distress, in its very nature temporary, you join in their cry to buy that, which if any good arose from it, would be theirs †, while you only are to pay the piper. Henceforward, therefore, execrate, silence, confound, and abash the men, who raise clamours at distresses, whether real or imaginary; you know from the progressive prosperity of your country, that such cannot be radical; weighty experience has told you also, that you may have to pay for relief that goes but imaginarily to others, in giving up your solid gold for their ideal profits. Reflect that the great period of your increasing wealth was a time of quiet and silence, and that you did not complain of poverty until you were proved to be a golden object of taxation. Ponder well on these facts and be in future silent.

That the measure of giving freedom to the irish commerce is a wise one, I have not a doubt, but I must own, I regret its not having been done upon principles of sound policy, rather than at a time when it can bear the construction, true or false, of being extorted; and this leads me to one or two observations on the armed associations, which have made too much noise in England.

If ill founded apprehensions have led the legislature of Britain to do now what it ought to have done long ago, the effect is beneficial to both countries; but I cannot admit that it is merely giving charity to a sturdy beggar, who frightens us by the brandishing and size of his crutch. To suppose that Great Britain is at the mercy of Ireland, and that an irish congress may arise, supported by forty thousand bayonets, is mere idle declamation, we have the strongest reason entirely to reject such ideas, because it could not possibly end in any thing but the ruin of Ireland; the very conflict would arrest all that prosperity which has been gradually flowing in upon her for these thirty years past, and leave her exposed, a divided ‡, weakened people, open to the attack of every potent neighbour. What a senseless, military mob, led by men who have nothing to lose, would wish or attempt, may be doubted, but that military associations, officered, and commanded by men of the first property, who have not named a grievance without redress following, and who have experienced more favour from three sessions of the british parliament than from three centuries before.—To suppose that such men,

* The assertion is not founded on the following charge in the national accounts 1779, though one might presume something upon it:

1.
To the board of first fruits for building new churches, and rebuilding old churches in such } 6000.
parishes as no divine publick service has been performed for 20 years past, ————

† I am well aware of what may be here said upon the advantage of landlords being in proportion to the prosperity of manufactures and commerce: in general it certainly is so, and always when things are left to take their natural course, but when they rise above the tenour of that smooth quiet current, the conclusion may not be just: all the measures condemned in the text are forced and artificial

‡ Those who are so wild as for a moment to conceive an idea of this sort, must surely have forgot the roman catholicks in that kingdom. It would be easy to enlarge on this point, but for every reason improper.

having every thing to lose by public confusion, but nothing to gain, would so entirely turn their back to the most powerful pleadings of their own interest and that of their country, is to suppose a case which never did nor ever will happen.

Apprehensions of any extremities are idle, but there is this misfortune in a series of concessions, not given to reason, but to clamour, that they rather invite new demands than satisfy old ones; and from this circumstance results the great superiority of coming at once to a universal explanation, and agreeing either to a union, or to such a modification of one, as I stated in section XXII.

In the next place let me enquire what degree of relief, (supposing the distresses of that kingdom to be as they may) will result from the freedom lately given to the irish in respect to their woollen and american trades, which will naturally lead me to the question, whether any prejudice is likely to result to England.

Whatever the distress may be in Ireland, it appears that these freedoms will not strike immediately at the evil, nor bring any considerable remedy; they are general favours, and not applicable to the distress of the time; this ought to be well understood in Ireland, because false hopes lead only to disappointment. It was highly proper to repeal those restrictions, but it is every day in the power of the irish to render to themselves much more important services. In order to convert their new situation to immediate advantage, they must establish woollen fabrics for the new markets opened to them; those already in the kingdom I cannot suppose to be exported for this plain reason—they are rivalled in their own markets by similar manufactures from England, I mean particularly fine broad cloths and ratteens; if the irish fabrics cannot stand the competition of ours in the market of Dublin, while they have a heavy land carriage in England, freight, commission, and duties on landing; and while the irish cloth has a great bounty by the Dublin Society to encourage it, they certainly will not be able to oppose us in foreign markets, where we meet on equal terms; this removes the expected advantage to *new* fabrics, which, let me observe, require new capitals, new establishments, new exertions, and new difficulties to be overcome, and all this in a country where the old established and flourishing fabric could scarcely be supported without english credit. It may farther be observed, that the reason why that credit and support have been given to the linen of Ireland, is its being a fabric not interfering with those of Britain, it is a different manufacture, demanded for different purposes. Had it been otherwise, the superiority of english capitals, and the advantage of long established skill and industry, would have crushed the competition of the irish linen; as in future they *will* crush any competition in woollens if of the same kinds we manufacture ourselves. When the capital of Ireland becomes much larger, when new habits of industry are introduced, and when time has established new funds of skill, then new fabrics may be undertaken with advantage, but it must be a work of time, and can no more operate as a remedy to present evils, than any scheme of the most visionary nature. Their West-India trade, I believe, will be of as little service; every thing in commerce depends on capital; in order to send ships freighted with irish commodities to those colonies, reloaded with West-India goods, capital and credit are necessary; they have it not for new trades; the progressive prosperity of the kingdom has increased all the old branches of their commerce, but they all exhibit a proof that they are still cramped for want of greater exertions, which time is bringing. If new speculations change the current of old capitals, the advantage may be very problematical; if this is not done new trades will demand new capitals, and I believe it will be difficult to point out three men in the kingdom with an unemployed wealth applicable to new undertakings.

But it is said that english capitals will be employed; an argument equally used to prove the gain of Ireland and the loss of England; but in fact proving neither one nor the other. If the wealth of England is employed there, it will be for the benefit of England. Before the present troubles three fourths of the trade, industry, and even agriculture of North-America were put in motion by english capitals, but assuredly for our own benefit; the profit was remitted to England, and whenever the fund itself was withdrawn, it was to the same country. Is it for the benefit of Portugal that english factors reside at Oporto? Supposing the fact should happen, that english manufacturers or merchants should establish factors or partners at Corke or Waterford, to carry on woollen fabrics, I see not a shadow of objection; the profit

of

of those undertakings would center most assuredly in England; and if in doing it the irish were benefited also, who can repine? Were not the Americans benefited in the same manner? That England would suffer no loss if this was to happen is to me clear; but I believe Ireland has very little reason to expect it for many years. I have shewn already that such a plan could never be thought of for such fabricks as are in Ireland rivalled by english goods of the same sort; if it was to happen it must be in *new* fabricks: but let me ask a sensible manufacturer, whether it would not be easier for him to establish such amidst the long established skill and ingenuity of England, rather than go into a country where the whole must be a creation; where cheapness of provisions, and the habit of subsisting on potatoes, at so small an expence, would baffle his endeavours for half an age, to make the people industrious, and where, under that disadvantage, the price of his labour would be as high as in England? I have a right to conclude this, seeing the fact in the linen manufacture, throughout the North of Ireland, where the weavers earn on an average 1s. 5d. a day, and where also the cheapness of provisions proves very often detrimental to the fabrick.

As a general question, there is nothing more mistaken than dearness and cheapness of labour. Artizans and manufacturers of all sorts are as well paid by the day as in England, but the *quantity* of work they give for it, and in many cases the *quality* differ exceedingly. Husbandry labour is very *low priced*, but by no means *cheap*; I have in a preceding section shewn this, and asserted on experience that two shillings a day in Suffolk is cheaper than sixpence in Corke. If a Huron would dig for twopence, I have little doubt but it might be dearer than the irishman's sixpence.

If an english manufacturer could not attempt an irish fabrick for cheapness of labour, what other motive could influence him? Not the price of the raw material, for wool is on an average forty-seven per cent. dearer than in England, which alone is a most heavy burthen. Other reasons, were the above not sufficient, would induce me to believe on the one hand, that the irish will not immediately reap any benefit from english capitals employed in their woollen fabricks; and on the other, that if it was to happen, England would sustain no loss. What time may effect is another question; Ireland has *been* so fast increasing in prosperity, that she will gradually form a capital of her own for new trades, and I doubt not will flourish in them without the least prejudice to Britain. Those who are apt to think the contrary, cannot consider with too much attention that case in point, North-Britain, which by means of cheap labour and provisions, has not been able to rival, with any dangerous success, one single english fabrick, yet has she raised many to a great degree of prosperity; but she has flourished in them without injury to us; and her greatest manufactures, such as stockings, linen, &c. &c. have grown with the unrivalled prosperity of similar fabricks in England; if english capitals have been assistant, have we upon review a single reason to regret it? The plenty of coals in Scotland is an advantage that Ireland does not enjoy, where fuel is dearer than in England.

But let me suppose for a moment, that the contrary of all this was fact, that english capitals would go, that Ireland would gain, and that England would lose. Is it imagined that the account would stop there? By no means. Why would english capitals go? Because they could be employed to more advantage; and will any one convince us, that it is not for the general benefit of the empire, that capitals should be employed where they will be *most productive*? Is it even for the advantage of England, that a thousand pounds should here be employed in a fabrick at twelve per cent. profit, if the same could make twenty in Ireland? This is not at all clear; but no position is plainer than another, because it is founded on uniform facts, that the wealth of Ireland is the wealth of England, and that the consumption in Ireland of english manufactures thrives exactly in proportion to that wealth. While the great profit of the linen manufacture centers at last in England, and while english capitals, and english factors, and partners, have gone to the North of Ireland to advance that fabrick, so much to the benefit of England, what shadow of an apprehension can arise, that other branches of irish prosperity may arise by the same means, and with the same effect. Take into one general idea the consumption of british goods in that kingdom; the interest they pay us for money; and the remittances from absentee estates; and then let any one judge, if they can possibly

possibly increase in wealth without a vast proportion of every shilling of that wealth at last centering here. It is for this reason that I think myself the warmest friend to Britain, by urging the importance of Irish prosperity; we can never thrive to the extent of our capacity till local prejudices are done away, and they are not done away until we believe the advantage the same, whether wealth arises in Roscommon or in Berkshire.

Upon the whole it appears, that the Irish have no reason to look for relief from this new and liberal system, to any distress peculiar to the present moment; the silent progress of time is doing that for them, which they are much too apt to look for in statutes, regulations and repeals. Their distress will most assuredly be only temporary. The increase of wealth, which has for some time been flowing into that kingdom, will animate their industry; to put it in the future is improper, it must be doing it at this moment, and he is no friend to Britain that does not wish it may continue in the most rapid progression; in this idea I shall not hesitate to declare, that the freedoms granted to Ireland, whenever they shall take effect to the benefit of that kingdom, will prove the wisest measures for enriching this. That all apprehensions of ills arising from them are equally contrary to the dictates of experience, and to the conclusions of the soundest theory.

MODES

MODES OF AGRICULTURE

RECOMMENDED TO THE

GENTLEMEN OF IRELAND.

HAVING been repeatedly requested by gentlemen in all parts of the kingdom, to name such courses of crops as I thought would be advantageous; I very readily complied to the best of my judgment with the desire; but as it is necessary to be more diffuse in explanations than possible on the leaf of a pocket-book, I promised many to be more particular in my intended publication; I shall, therefore, venture to recommend such modes of cultivation as I think, after viewing the greatest part of the kingdom, will be found most advantageous.

TURNEP COURSE*.

1. Turneps.
2. Barley.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

Plough the field once in october into flat lands; give the second ploughing the beginning of march; a third in april; a fourth in may; upon this spread the manure, whatever it may be, if any is designed for the crop; dung is the best. About midsummer plough for the last time. You must be attentive in all these ploughings thoroughly to extirpate all root weeds, particularly couch (*tritium repens*) and water grass; the former is the white root, which is under ground, the latter, which knots on the surface, and is, if possible, more mischievous than the former. Children, with baskets, should follow the plough in every furrow to pick it all up and burn it, and as fast as it is done sow and harrow in the turnep seed. The best way of sowing is to provide a trough, from twelve to sixteen feet long, three inches wide and four deep, made of slit deal half an inch thick, let it have partitions twelve inches asunder, and a bottom of pierced tin to every other division, the holes in the tin should be just large enough for a seed to fall through with ease, three of them to each tin; in the middle of the trough two circular handles of iron; the seed is to be put, a small quantity at a time, into the bottomed divisions, and a man taking the trough in his hands walks with a steady pace over the land, shaking it sideways as he goes: if he guides himself by the centers and furrows of the beds, he will be sure not to miss any land; cover the seed with a light pair of harrows. A pint and half of

* For dry and light soils.

seed the proper quantity for a plantation acre; the large globular white Norfolk sort, which grows above ground, yields the greatest produce.

As soon as the crop comes up, watch them well to see if attacked by the fly, and if very large spaces are quite eaten up, instantly plough again, and sow and harrow as before. When the plant gets the third or rough leaf, they are safe from the fly, and as soon as they spread a diameter of three or four inches is the time to begin to hand hoe them, an operation so indispensably necessary, that to cultivate turneps without it, is much worse management than not to cultivate them at all. Procure hand hoes from England eleven inches wide, and taking them into the field, make the men set out the turneps to the distance of from twelve to eighteen inches asunder, according to the richness of the soil; the richer the greater the distance, cutting up all weeds and turneps which grow within those spaces, and not leaving two or three plants together in knots. Make them do a piece of land perfectly well while you are with them, and leave it as a sample. They will be slow and awkward at first, but will improve quickly. Do not apprehend the expence, that will lessen as the men become handy. On no account permit them to do the work with their fingers, unless to separate two turneps close together, for they will then never understand the work, and the expence will always be great. Employ hands enough to finish the field in three weeks. As soon as they have done it, they are to begin again and hoe a second time to correct the deficiencies of the first; and for a few years, until the men become skilful in the business, attend in the same manner to remedy the omissions of the second. And if afterwards, when the turneps are closed, and exclude all hoeing, any weeds should rise and shew themselves above the crop, children and women should be sent in to pull them by hand.

In order to feed the crop where they grow, which is an essential article, herdles must be procured; as a part therefore of the system, plant two or three acres of the strait timber sally, in the same manner as for a twig garden, only the plants not quite so close, these at two years growth will make very good sheep herdles, they should be 6 or 7 feet long and 3 feet high, the bottoms of the upright stakes sharpened, and projecting from the wattle work 6 inches, they are fixed down by means of stakes, one stake to each herdle, and a band of year old sally goes over the two end stakes of the herdle, and the moveable stake they are fixed with: the herdles are very easily made, but the best way would be to send over an Irish labourer to England to become a master of it, which he would do in a couple of months.

Being thus provided with herdles, and making some other shift till the sallies are grown, you must feed your crop (if you would apply them to the best advantage) with fat wethers, beginning the middle of november, or first week in december, and herdling off a piece proportioned to the number of your sheep, let them live there, night and day, when they have nearly eaten the piece up, give them another, and so on while your crop lasts: when you come to have plenty of herdles there should be a double row in order to let your lean sheep follow the fat ones, and eat up their leavings; by which means none will be lost. The great profit of this practice in Ireland is being able to sell your fat sheep in the spring when mutton almost doubles its price. If you fat oxen with turneps they must be given in sheds, well littered, and kept clean, and the beasts should have good hay. Take care never to attempt to fatten either beasts or wethers with them that are lean at putting them to turneps; the application is profitable only for animals that are not less than half fat.

Upon the crop being eaten there is a variation of conduct founded on circumstances not easily to describe, which is ploughing once, twice, or thrice for barley; the soil must be dry, loose, and friable for that grain, and as clover is always to be sown on it, it must be fine, but if the first ploughing is hit in proper time and weather, the land will be in finer order on many soils than after successive ploughings. The farmer in his field must be the judge of this: suffice it to say, that the right moment to send the ploughs into a field is one of the most difficult points to be learned in tillage, and which no instructions can teach. It is practice alone that can do it. As to the time of sowing the barley in Ireland I should miss no season after the middle of february if I had my land in order. Sow three quarters of a barrel, or a barrel and quarter of barley to the plantation acre, according to the richness of the land, if it had a moderate manuring for turneps, and fed with fat sheep, three quarters or a whole one would be sufficient, but if you doubt your land being in heart sow one and a quarter

a quarter. Plough first, (whether once, twice or thrice) and then sow and cover with harrows of middling weight, finishing with a light harrow. When the barley is three inches high, sow not less than 20lb. of red clover to each plantation acre, if the seed is not very good do not sow less than 25lb, and immediately run a light roller once over it; but take care that this is in a dry day, and when the earth does not stick at all to the roller. When the barley is cut, and carried from the field, feed the clover before winter, but not very bare, and do not let any cattle be on it in the winter. Early in the spring before it shoots pick up the stones, clean off where you intend mowing it for hay, but if you feed it this is unnecessary. As to the application of the crop for hay or food it must be directed by the occasions of the farmer; I shall however remark, that it may be made exceedingly conducive to increase the number of hogs in Ireland, as it will singly support, all quarter, half, and full grown pigs. If mown it should be cut as soon as the field looks reddish from the blossoms: it will yield two full crops of hay.

Within the month of october let it be well ploughed, with an even regular furrow, and from half to three quarters of a barrel of wheat seed sown, according to the richness of the land, and harrowed well in. When this crop is reaped and cleared the course ends, and you begin again for turneps as before.

This system is very well adapted to sheep, as the clover fattens them in summer, and the turneps in winter.—Excellent as it is for dry soils, it is not adapted to wet ones; the following is preferable.

B E A N C O U R S E *.

1. Beans.
2. Oats.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

D I R E C T I O N S.

WHATEVER the preceding crop, whether corn, or old grass, (for the first manure is properly applied, but unnecessary on the latter) plough but once for planting beans, which should be performed from the middle of december to the middle of february, the earlier the better †, and chuse either the mazagan or the horse bean according to your market; the single ploughing given must be performed so as to arch the land up, and leave deep furrows to serve as open drains. Harrow the land after ploughing. Provide slit planed deal poles ten feet long, an inch thick, and two inches broad, bore holes through them exactly at sixteen inches asunder, pass pack-threads through these holes to the length of the lands you are about to plant, and there should be a pole at every fifty yards; four stakes at the corners of the extreme poles, fasten them to the ground, the intention is to keep the lines every where at equal distances and strait, which are great points in the bean husbandry to facilitate horse hoeing. This being ready, women take some beans in their aprons, and with a dibber pointed with iron make the holes along the strings with their right hand, and put the bean in with their left; while they are doing one set of lines, another should be prepared and fixed ready for them. Near London they are paid 3s. and 3s. 6d. a bushel for this work of planting; but where they are not accustomed to it they do it by the day. The beans are put three inches asunder, and two or three inches deep. A barrel will plant a plantation acre. A light pair of harrows are used to cover the seed in the holes, stuck with a few bushes. By the time the cold easterly winds come in the spring they will be high enough to hand hoe, if they were early planted, and it is of consequence on strong soils to catch every dry season for such operations. The hoes should be eight inches wide, and the whole surface of the space between the

* For strong and wet soils.

† In England it is proper to wait till the heavy Christmas frost breaks up, but as such are rare in Ireland the same precaution is not necessary.

rows carefully cut, and every weed eradicated. This hoeing costs, near London, from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per english acre, but with unskilful hands in Ireland I should suppose it would cost from 12s. to 14s. per plantation acre, according to the laziness in working I have remarked there. When the beans are about six inches high, they should be horse hoed with a shim, the cutting part ten or eleven inches wide. A plate of this tool is to be seen in my *English Tour*. It is cheap, simple, and not apt to be out of order, one horse draws it, which should be led by a careful person, another should hold the shim, and guide it carefully in the center between the rows. It cuts up all weeds effectually, and loosens the earth two or three inches deep; in a little time after this operation the hand hoe should be sent in again to cut any slips which the shim might have passed, and to extract the weeds that grew too near the plants for that tool to take them. This is but a slight hoeing. If the weather is dry enough a second horse hoeing with the shim should follow when the beans are nine or ten inches high, but if the weather is wet it must be omitted, the hand hoe however must be kept at work enough to keep the beans perfectly free from weeds. Reap the crop as soon as a few of the pods turn darkish, and while many of them are green, you had much better cut too soon than too late. You may get them off in the month of august, (in England the mazagans are reaped in july) which leaves a sufficient season for half a fallow. Plough the ground directly if the weather is dry; and if dry seasons permit (but you must be guided entirely by the state of the weather, taking care on this soil never to go on it when wet) give it two ploughings more before winter, leaving the lands rounded up so as to shoot off all water, with deep and well cleansed furrows for the winter. It is of particular consequence for an early spring sowing, that not a drop of water rest on the land through winter.

The first season dry enough after the middle of february, plough and sow the oats, harrowing them in, from three fourths of a barrel, to a barrel and a quarter according to the richness of the land. As the sowing must be on this one ploughing, you must be attentive to timing it right, and by no means to lose a dry season; cleanse the furrows, and leave the lands in such a round neat shape that no water can lodge; and when the oats are three or four inches high, as in the case before mentioned of barley, roll in the clover seed as before, taking care to do it in a dry season. I need not carry the direction farther, as those for the turnep course are to be applied to the clover and wheat.

The great object on these strong and wet soils is to be very careful never to let your horses go on them in wet weather, and in the forming your lands always to keep them the segment of a circle that water may no where rest, with cuts for conveying it away. Another course for this land is,

1. Beans.
2. Wheat.

In which the beans being managed exactly as before directed, three ploughings are given to the land, the third of which covers the wheat seed: this is a very profitable course.

P O T A T O E C O U R S E *.

1. Potatoes.
2. Wheat.
3. Turneps.
4. Barley.
5. Clover.
6. Wheat.

D I R E C T I O N S.

I will suppose the land to be a stubble, upon which spread the dung or compost equally over the whole field, in quantity not less than 60 cubical yards to a plantation. If the land be quite dry, lay it flat, if inclinable to wetness arch it gently; in this first ploughing which should

* For light and dry soil; potatoes never answer on clays or strong wet soils.

be given the latter end of february or the beginning of march, the potatoes are to be planted. Women are to lay the sets in every other furrow, at the distance of 12 inches from set to set close to the unploughed land, in order that the horses may tread the less on them. There should be women enough to plant one furrow in the time the ploughman is turning another, the furrows should be not more than 5 inches deep, nor broader than 9 inches, because when the potatoes come up they should be in rows 18 inches asunder. The furrows should also be straight, that the rows may be so for horse hoeing. Having finished the field, harrow it well to lay the surface smooth, and break all the clods, and if the weather be quite dry any time in a fortnight after planting run a light roller over it followed by a light harrow. About a fortnight before the potatoes appear, skim over the whole surface of the field with one whose cutting edge is 2 feet long, going not more than 2 inches deep; this loosens the surface mould, and cuts off all the young weeds that may be just coming up. When the potatoes are three inches high horse hoe them with a skim as directed for beans that cuts 12 inches wide, and go 3 inches deep, and immediately after hand hoe the rows, cutting the surface well between plant and plant, and also the space missed by the skim. Repeat both these operations when the plants are six or seven inches high; and in about three weeks after give a hand hoeing, directing the men gently to earth up the plants, but not to lay the mould higher to their stems than three inches. After this nothing more is to be done than sending women in to draw out any weeds that may appear by hand. Take them up the beginning of october, first carrying away all the stalks to the farm yard to make dung: then plough them up *across* the field; making these new lands very wide, that is 4, 5, or 6 perch over, in order to leave as few rows that way as possible. Provide to every plough from ten to fifteen men with three pronged forks, and a boy or girl with a basket to every man, and dispose eight or ten cars along the land to receive the crop, I used three wheeled carts, as they do not require a horse while they are idle. Have your wheat seed ready brined, and limed, and the seedsman with his basket in the field; as soon as the ploughman turns a furrow, the seedsman follows him close, sprinkling the seed not into the furrow just opened, but into the land thrown over by the plough, the fork men then divide themselves at equal distances along it, and shaking the mould which the ploughman turned over with their forks, the boys pick up the potatoes. In using their forks they must attend to leaving the land regular and handsome without holes or inequalities, as there is to be no other tillage for the wheat. They are also always to stand and move on the part unploughed, and never to tread on the other; they are also to break all the land in pieces which the ploughman turns over, not only for getting all the potatoes, but also for covering the wheat. And thus they are to go on till the field is finished. If your men are lazy, and do not work hard enough to keep the plough constantly going, you must get more, for they should never stand still. The treatment of this wheat wants no directions, and the succeeding crops of the course are to be managed exactly as before directed, only you need not manure for the turneps, if the potatoes had in that respect justice done them.

F L A X C O U R S E.

1. Turneps.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

D I R E C T I O N S.

This for flax on light and dry soils, the turneps to be managed exactly as before directed, and the remarks on the tillage of the turnep land for barley are all applicable to flax which requires the land to be very fine and friable; I would roll in the clover seed in the same manner, and the weeding and pulling the flax will assist its growth. Let the flax be sowed and stacked like corn, threshed in the spring, and the process of watering and dressing gone through the same as in the common way. This husbandry is exceedingly profitable.

1. Beans.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

This for strong soils. The bean land to be prepared for the flax exactly in the same manner as before directed for oats.

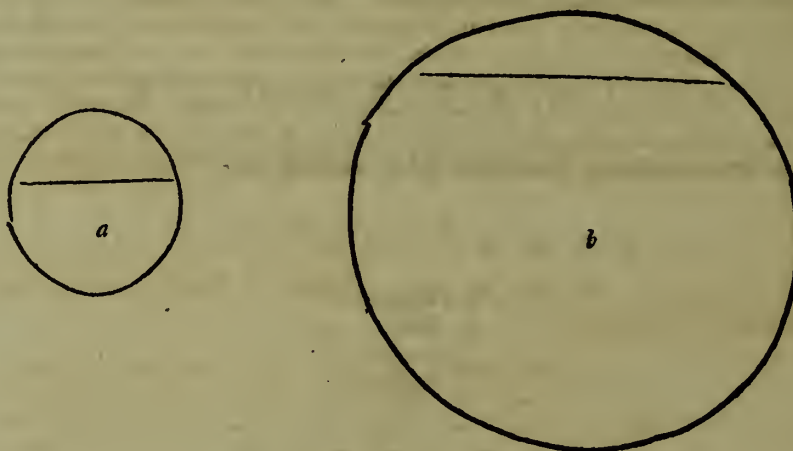
1. Potatoes.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

For any soils except the very strong ones. The potatoes to be managed exactly as before directed, only upon taking them up the land to be left till spring, but if wet no water to be suffered on it in the winter. In the spring to apply more or fewer ploughings as will best ensure a fine friable surface to sow the flax in.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In very stoney soils, the implement called a shim cannot be used to any advantage; in which case the operations directed for it must be effected by extra hand hoeings. By *land* I mean those beds formed in ploughing by the finishing open furrows: the space from furrow to furrow is the *land*.

In ploughing wet soils be attentive to get these lands gradually into a right shape, which is a direct segment of a circle. A large segment of a small circle raises the centers too high, and makes the sides too steep; but a small segment of a large circle is the proper form—for instance.



The segment of *a* appears at once to be an improper shape for a broad land, but that of *b* is the right form; keeping wet soils in that shape very much corrects the natural disadvantages. Permitting the teams to go on to wet soils in wet weather, is a most mischievous practice; but it is much worse in the spring than in the autumn. In all these courses it is proper to remark, that keeping the fallow crops, that is the turneps, beans and potatoes, absolutely free from

from all weeds, and in a loose friable order, is essential to success. It is not necessary only for those crops, but the successive ones depend entirely on this conduct. It is the principle of this husbandry to banish fallows, which are equally expensive and useless, but then it is absolutely necessary to be assiduous to the last degree in keeping these crops in the utmost perfection of management, not a shilling can be laid out on them that will not pay amply.

There are in the preceding courses several refinements and practices, which I not only approve, but have practised, but omitted here, as I do not think them likely to meet with the necessary attention in Ireland.

L A Y I N G L A N D T O G R A S S .

There is no part of husbandry in Ireland less understood than this branch, and yet where land is to be laid down, none is more important.

Begin according to the soil, with either turneps, beans or potatoes, and manage them as prescribed in the preceding instructions. If the land has been long under a bad system, by which it has been exhausted and filled with noxious weeds, take a second crop managed exactly like the first, but one only to be manured. After this sow either barley, oats, or flax, according to the tenor of the preceding directions, but instead of clover seed rolled in, harrow in the following seeds, with those spring crops : quantities for a plantation acre,

- 15lb. perennial red clover, called cow grass, (*trifolium alpestre*.)
- 12lb. of white clover, (*trifolium repens*).
- 15lb. of narrow leaved plantation, called rib grass, (*plantago lanceolata*.)
- 10lb. of yellow trefoil.

Which if bought at the best hand, will not usually exceed above twenty-five shillings. All the ploughings given for this end, must tend to reduce the surface to an exact level, but then a very correct attention must be used to dig open furrows, in order to convey away all water.

A P P E N D I X .

The following particulars were omitted under their respective heads.

D E R R Y .

THE shipping of this place in 1760 consisted of sixty-seven sail, from thirty to three hundred and fifty tons.

7	of and above	300 tons,	18 to 20 men and boys.
21	—————	200 —	14 — 16 —————
18	—————	100 —	12 — 14 —————
21	under —	100 —	5 —————
Total, 10,820 tons.			

In 1776 about two thirds of the above ; the decline owing to that of the passenger trade, and in the import of flax-seed ; for eighteen to twenty years back, two thousand four hundred persons went annually, not more in 1772 and 1773 than usual.

C O R K E .

C O R K E.

I was informed that there was no foundation for Dr. Campbell's assertion, that this city suffers remarkably in time of war*.

E X T E N T.

Dr. Grew calculated what the real contents of England and Wales were, not at the rate of the geographic mile, but real statute square, one containing 640 acres, and makes it 46,080,000 acres†, instead of the geographick content of 31,648,000. Ireland measured in the same manner, contains about twenty-five millions of english acres, or fifteen millions and a half irish, which at nine shillings and seven pence an acre, make the rental 7,427,083l. Those who consider this attentively, will not think I am above the truth at six millions, as all uncultivated bog, mountain and lake, are included in the valuations.

R E N T A L.

The rental of England is stated at page 9 of the second part to be thirteen shillings, but it is not accurate to compare that with the 9s. 7d. irish rent. The latter is the gross rent of all the island, including every thing *let or not*, deductions being made for the portions of lake, bog, river, &c. But that of England, at 13s. only what is occupied by the farmers or landlords, and does not include large rivers, lakes, royal forests, or common pastures (mountains, bogs, marshes and moors not to be excluded, as they are parts of the lands let, from which the calculation was made). Upon a very large allowance, if these are estimated at an eighth part of the whole, the account will be 7-8ths of England at 13s. and 1-8th at nothing, average 11s. 4d. per acre, instead of 13s. the comparison with Ireland then will be,

	s.	d.
Ireland rent and roads, — — — — —	9	10
England rent, — — — — —	11	4
Rates, — — — — —	1	2½
	12	6½
Irish acre and money, — — — — —	9	10
Which for an english acre and english money is, — — — — —	5	7

Instead of which it is 12s. 6½d. consequently the proportion between the rent of land in England and Ireland is nearly as five to eleven; in other words that space of land, which in Ireland lets for 5s. would in England produce 11s.

D E A N E R I E S O F I R E L A N D.

	l.		l.
Raphoe, — — — — —	1600	Down, — — — — —	1700
Derry, — — — — —	1600	Kildare, — — — — —	120
Ardfert, — — — — —	60	Achonry, — — — — —	100
Connor, — — — — —	200	Killaloe, — — — — —	140
Clonmacnoife, — — — — —	50	Offory, — — — — —	600
Corke, — — — — —	400	Kilmacdaugh, — — — — —	120
St. Patrick's, — — — — —	800	Lifmore, — — — — —	306

* Political Survey of Britain, vol. 1. p. 243.

† Phil. Trans. No. 330, p. 266.

	l.		l.
Ardagh, — — — —	200	Leighlin, — — — —	80
Emly, — — — —	100	Ardmagh, — — — —	150
Kilmore, — — — —	600	Waterford, — — — —	400
Elphin, — — — —	250	Christ church, — — — —	2000
Rofs, — — — —	20	Limerick, — — — —	600
Killala, — — — —	150	Cashel, — — — —	200
Cloyne, — — — —	220	Clogher, — — — —	800
Kilfenora, — — — —	210	Tuam, — — — —	300
Dromore, — — — —	400	Ferns, — — — —	300
Clonfert — — — —	20	Archdeaconry of Kells, — — — —	1200

I D L E N E S S.

La sociedad economica de Dublin ha levantado enteramente de nuevo las lencerias de Irlanda; cuyos habitantes estaban poseidos de gran indolencia. Han extendido su agricultura, en lugar que antes vivian de ganados y pastos, como los tartaros. See the *Appendice a la Educacion Popular*. Parte Quarta, p. 35. Madrid 1777, by Campomanes.

FALL IN THE PRICE OF THE PRODUCTS OF LAND.

Having in the preceding sheets, mentioned much distress being felt in England from the great fall in the price of all products, I think I may be pardoned one or two observations in defence of opinions I have formerly held, and which then subjected me to much censure from the pens of a variety of pamphleteers.

From the conclusion of the last peace in 1762, to 1775 inclusive, the prices of all the products of the earth were at so high a price, that complaints were innumerable. I have a shelf in my study almost full of publications on the subject, and parliament itself was employed more than once in enquiring into the causes. The suppositions of the publick were endless, there was scarcely an object in the kingdom, which was not mentioned as a cause, jobbers, regrators, forestallers, sample selling, export bounty, post horses, stage coaches, hounds. &c. &c. but some respectable-complainants fixed on great farms and inclosures. During that period I more than once endeavoured to persuade the publick, that the complaint itself was not well founded, that prices were not comparatively so high as had been asserted; that the rise was not owing to any one of the causes mentioned, and that a considerable increafe of national wealth was fully sufficient to account for it.

In the years 1776, 1777, and 1778, prices fell considerably; and in 1779 so low, that very general complaints have been heard of ruined farmers and distressed landlords, and at the time I am now writing the fact holds, that there is a very considerable fall in all products, and great numbers of farmers ruined. I have the prices of wool now for forty years before me, and that which from 1758 to 1767 was from 18s. to 21s. a tod, is for 1779 only 12s. and was in 1778 but 14s. We must go back to 1754 to find a year so low as the last. Wheat and all sorts of grain are greatly fallen*.

In addition to these facts let me observe, that great farms and enclosures are now as prevalent as ever. If they were the occasion of high prices before, how come they not to have the same effect now? But it is quite unnecessary to dwell upon a fact, which at the first blush brings with it the most complete conviction.

* The comparison in general must stand thus:

Wheat, 3s. to 3s. 6d. which 5 years ago was 6s. to 7s.	2 year old wethers 10s. which were 20s.
Barley, 2s. ditto 3s. 6d.	Cows, 5l. to 6l. 7l. to 9l.
Oats, 2s. ditto 2s. 6d.	Hogs, 20s. 26s.
Beans, 2s. 10d. to 3s. ditto 3s. 6d.	4 year old steers, 3l. 10s. to 5l. 7l. to 10l.
Wool, 12s. to 15s. ditto 16s. to 21s.	Oak timber, 3l. to 4l. 3l. 10s. to 4l. 10s.
Lambs, 6s. ditto 12s.	Ash ditto, 2l. to 2l. 5s. 2l. 10s. to 3l.

After

After the peace of 1762, there was a very great influx of wealth into this kingdom, which had the effect of nominally raising all prices, not of corn and cattle only, but of land itself; prices have declined in 1776, 1777 and 1778, but greatly in 1779. I am very apt to believe, that as the former *dearneys*, as we called it, was owing to PLENTY of money, the present *cheapness* is owing to SCARCITY; not to a scarcity, generally speaking, because there is a proof that the specie of the kingdom was never greater than at present, but to a scarcity in these innumerable channels, which like the smaller veins and ramifications of the human body, carry the blood to the least of the extremities. There is no scarcity of money in London, as I am informed by several very considerable bankers and merchants. But why is it so plentiful there? In order to be applied at seven or eight per cent. interest in publick loans. This circumstance it is which collects it from every part of the country, from every branch of national industry, and which occasions the effect now so generally complained of, a fall in all prices. The reason why the farmers are ruined, which is really the case with numbers, is their having taken tenures of their lands at a rent proportioned to high prices; nor is this the only circumstance, labour ought to fall with other commodities, but government having four hundred thousand men in pay, and consequently to be recruited, bids high in the market against the farmer. Poor rates also ought to fall, but there is so much folly, knavery, and infatuation, in every part of that abominable administration, that I am not at all surpris'd at seeing them rise, which is the fact. These three circumstances easily account for the distress of the farmer.

We may in future, I apprehend, expect to see more accurate ideas of what has been called *dear* and *cheap* rates of products, and never more to hear of great farms, engrossers of farms, commanding and monopolizing markets, or enclosures condemned for doing that which we now find them so utterly incapable of doing, that the farmers are ruined and in gaol for want of the power to effect matters, for which they were before so execrated. We at least gain something, if the present experience gives the lie direct to all that folly, nonsense and absurdity, with which the publick was so repeatedly pestered. And there is the more reason for this, because if such a peace succeeds the present war, as leaves us a wealthy and prosperous people, prices will assuredly rise, when that folly might again be met with, if not at present displayed in the true colours.

I know there are persons, who attribute both the former high, and the present low prices, to difference of crops, speaking much of plentiful and scarce years; I have been uniformly of opinion, that the difference of product, upon an average of all soils, to be extremely small, so small as not to operate upon price; and even upon particular spots the difference is not nearly so great, as to account for any considerable rise or fall. If this was a proper place I could offer many reasons and facts for this opinion; but if we accept the idea, then there is at once an end to great farms and enclosures as the cause of the rise, which are the two circumstances the most insisted on.

"I have lately received an account of a large common field in Leicestershire, which used to produce annually 800 qrs. of corn, besides maintaining 200 cattle, but which now in consequence of being inclosed and getting into few hands, produces little or no corn; and maintains no more cattle than before, though the rents are considerably advanced." *Dr. Price's Supp. to Obs. on Rev. Pay.* p. 388. "In Northamptonshire and Leicestershire, enclosing has greatly prevailed, and most of the new enclosed lordships are turned into pasturage, in consequence of which many lordships have not now 50 acres ploughed yearly, in which 1500, or at least 1000 were ploughed formerly; and scarce an ear of corn is now to be seen in some that bore hundreds of qrs. and so severely are the effects of this felt, that more wheat had been lately sold in these counties, on an average, at 7s. and 7s. 6d. the Winchester bushel, than used to be sold at 3s. 6d." *Rev. Mr. Addington's reasons against enclosing open fields.* As enclosures have since proceeded as rapidly as ever—Pray, why is wheat down at 3s. 6d. again, if it was enclosing that raised it to 7s. 6d.

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